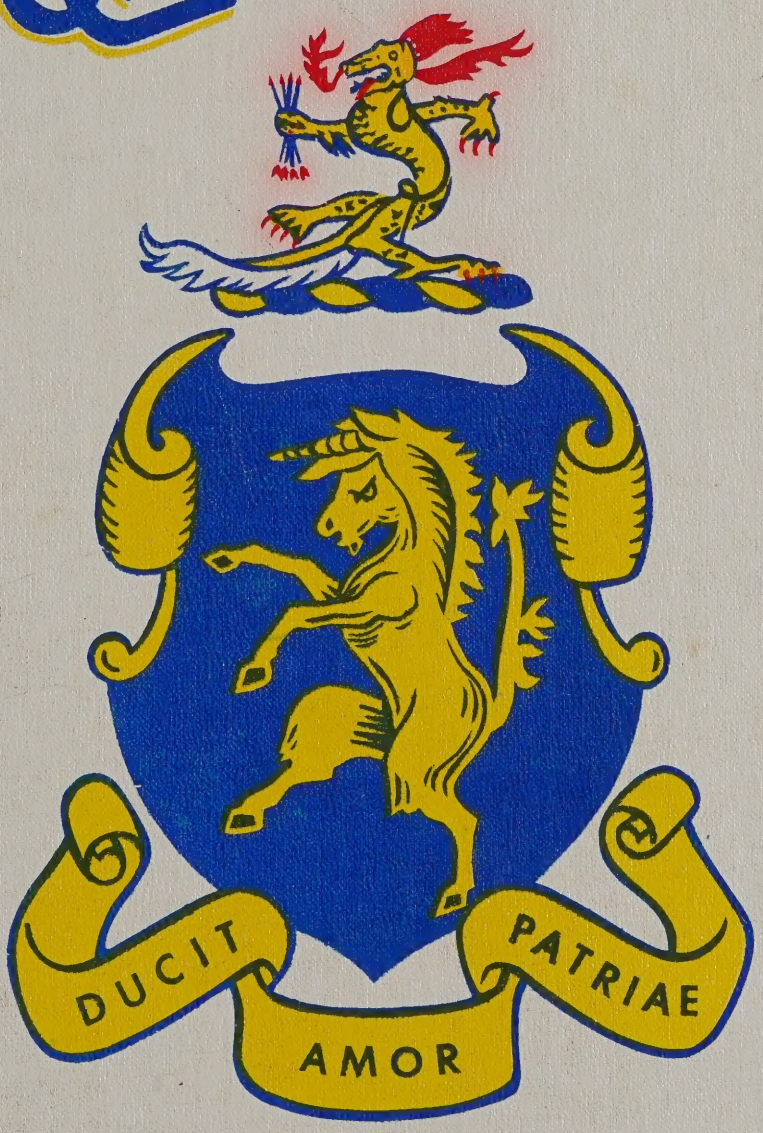
The Fighting Sixth



Colonel

WILLIAM H. HALE

Commanding

A MESSAGE FROM THE

Regimental Commander

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE "FIGHTING SIXTH"

As the completion of the 100th year of continuous active service approaches for the 6th Armored Cavalry, it is well to pause for a moment and reflect on the proud heritage of one of the finest organizations in the United States Armored Forces.

Constituted in the hectic days preceding the Civil War by a proclamation of President Lincoln, the 6th has known garrison duty, field duty, and combat service under every imaginable condition. The Regiment has experienced the confused, wild fighting, opposing the best cavalry units the Confederacy could muster; the hot, dry, desert fighting with the Apache, the Comanche, and the Sioux; the steaming jungles and fever ridden bogs of Cuba and the Phillippines; and the freezing ice and snow of Central Europe during the last stages of World War II. This combat service has been interspersed with normal peace time duties; training, maneuvers, guard duty, and for almost thirteen years following World War II, occupation and border duty on the front lines of the Free World in Eastern Europe.

Regardless of the assignment, glamorous or routine, the officers and men of the "Fighting Sixth", have given willingly of their time, their knowledge, and when necessary their life to uphold the glorious traditions of a proud regiment. This spirit has existed from the early days of the Civil War, exists today, and will continue to exist as long as the individual trooper, regardless of rank or length of service, maintains pride in himself, his regiment, and the deeds of his fellow troopers who have gone before him.

The mission of the 6th at this time is two-fold: to maintain the regiment in a state of combat readiness, and at the same time turn young men from civilian life into trained, alert soldiers ready to take their place wherever they may be assigned throughout the far-flung outposts of democracy. Both missions are vital, and can be accomplished only through diligent effort by every officer and man assigned to the "Fighting Sixth".

To many of you this will be your first assignment, your introduction to the honorable profession of arms. You must meet and overcome the many problems that beset every young man during the transition from civilian life to uniformed service in the armed forces of the United States. It is during this period that many of you will determine to remain in the service, while others make the decision to return to civilian status when the obligatory period of service has ended. Whatever your decision, I enjoin each and every one of you to consider the 6th Armored Cavalry as your "Home Regiment", and to remember and revere its traditions and high standards whatever your status or wherever you may be stationed.

The list of distinguished former members of this regiment is a long one, and includes such outstanding men as General Pershing, General Chaffee, and fifty-four officers and men who have been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. Perhaps some of you are the future distinguished members of the "Fighting Sixth", I sincerely hope so.

To all of you, whatever your goal in life, or wherever the needs of this great country may send you, I extend my best wishes and God Speed on your journey.

William H. Hale

WILLIAM H. HALE
Colonel Armor
Commanding

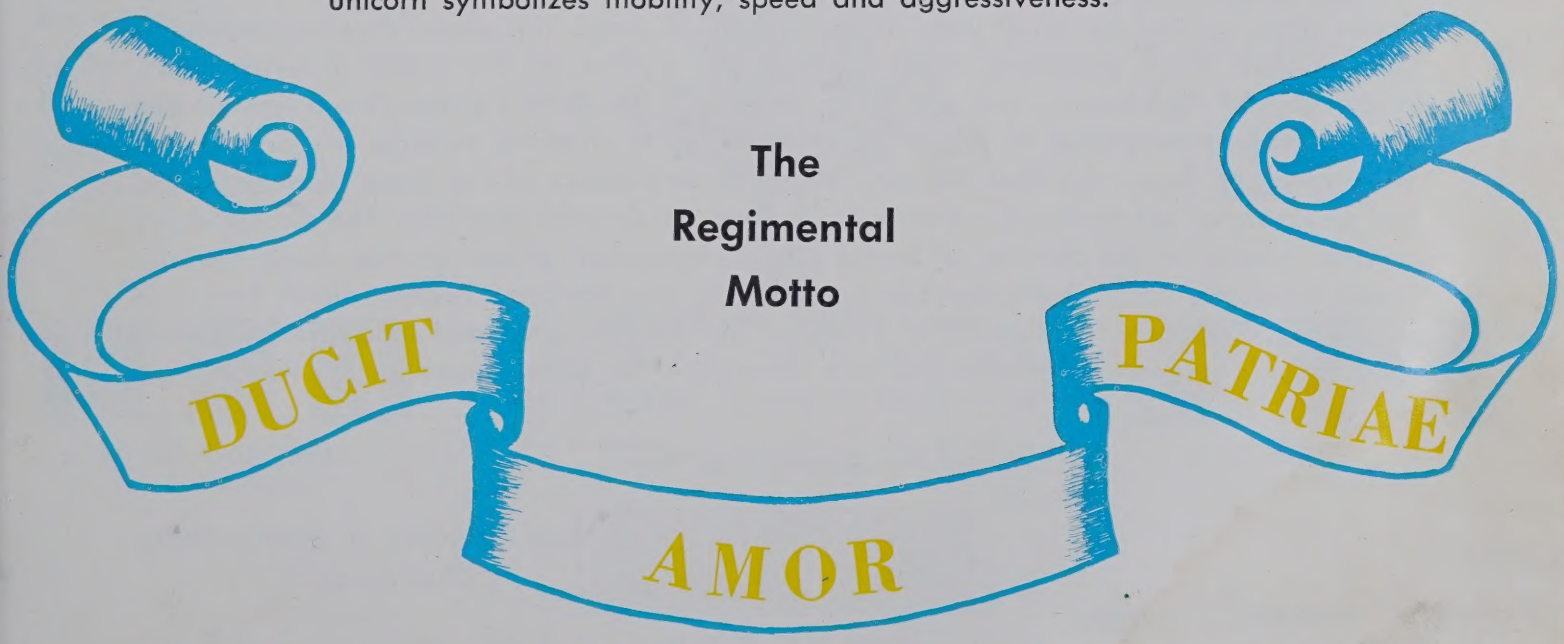
DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to the officers and men of the "Fighting Sixth" who have made possible, through their selfless devotion to duty, the honor and glory that has characterized actions of the Regiment through one hundred years of dedicated service to the United States of America.

THE CREST

The dragon signifies the regiment's participation in the Boxer Rebellion. The four arrows clutched in one claw of the dragon represents the Indian campaigns in which the regiment fought. The spiralled yellow and blue horizontal staff on which the dragon stands represents action in the Civil War (yellow and blue are the colors of cavalry).

On the shield is the unicorn, a mythical animal with a long, twirled horn growing out from the center of its forehead. The unicorn symbolizes mobility, speed and aggressiveness.



The Regimental Motto

"Led By Love of Country"

DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION

"After having performed an exacting mission under difficult conditions for a period of nearly two weeks, the Sixth Cavalry Group (Mechanized) (Reinforced) was committed the night of 8-9 January 1945, on a 5,000 yard front along the general line Villers-La-Bonne-Ean-Betlange-Farm-Furham with the mission of aggressive patrolling to follow up any enemy attempts to withdraw. When it became apparent on the morning of 9 January that the Germans had so organized the ground that it was impossible for the Infantry on both flanks to advance, the Sixth Cavalry Group (Mechanized) (Reinforced) attacked on its own initiative and over and above the requirements of its mission. In order to make this attack successful against numerically superior forces and a well dug-in enemy, a special task force was constituted, composed of elements of the various components of the Group. This task force spearheaded the attack and the Sixth Cavalry Group (Mechanized) (Reinforced), making full use of the mobility and firepower, captured the towns of Betlange and Harlange.

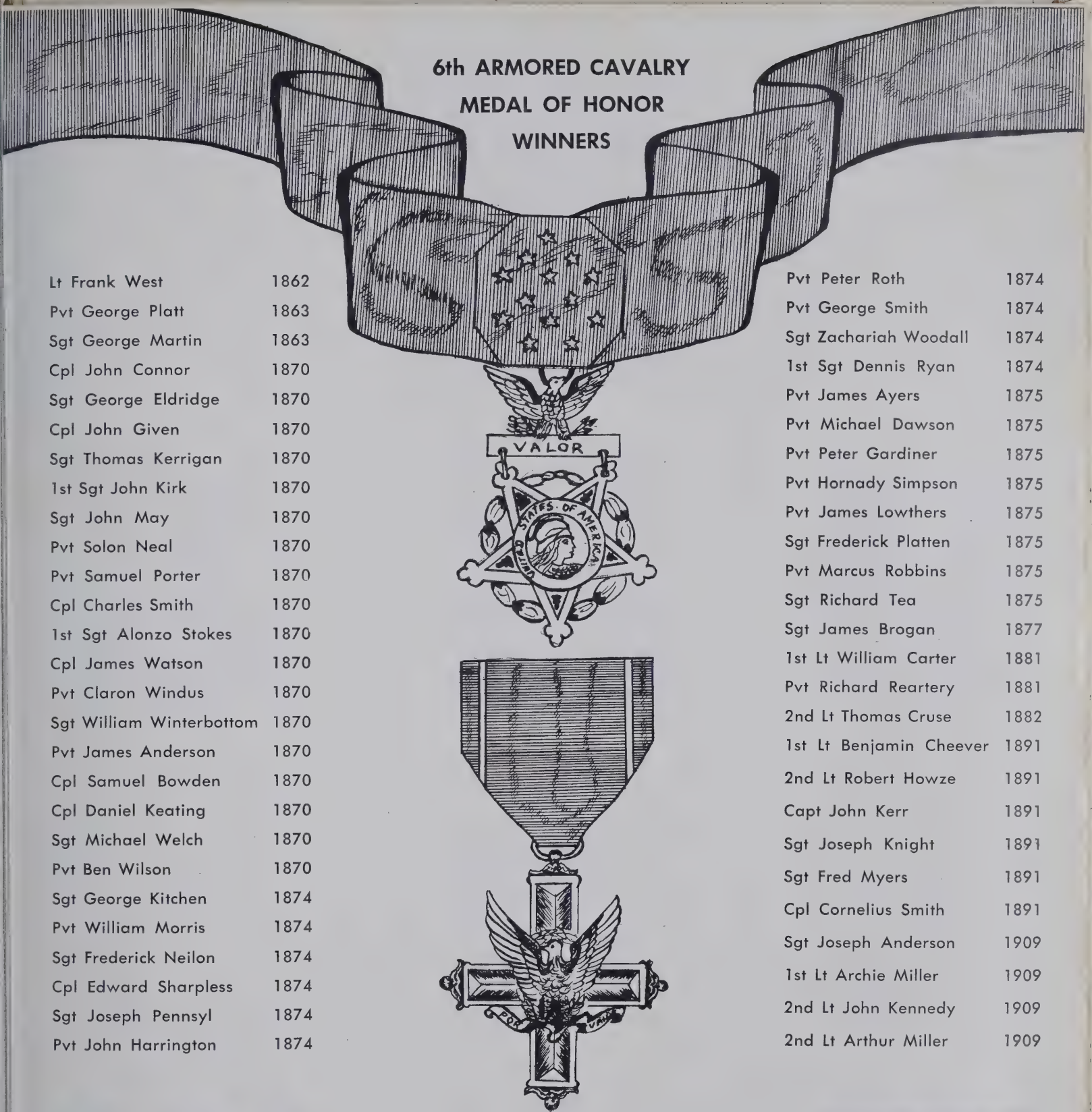
"The attack, continuing through the night despite bitter cold and deep snow, was delayed only by serious obstacles, including mines and blown bridges in the vicinity of Watrange. At daylight, 10 January, these obstacles were quickly by-passed and the Sixth Cavalry Group (Mechanized) (Reinforced) drove on. Taking finely calculated risks, all leaders made maximum use of firepower in relentlessly seeking out and destroying the enemy. Open flanks were ignored by small units in the interest of speed. This speed, plus the aggressive fighting spirit of all personnel, made possible the capture of the towns of Lutremande, Watrange and Tarchamps, and the zone assigned to the Sixth Cavalry Group was cleared quickly. Having completed its mission, and by doing so, making possible the advance of the units on its flanks, the Sixth Cavalry Group, in furtherance of the Corps plan, requested and was granted permission to advance far beyond its original objective. The Group drove on and assisted in the capture of Soniez. The outstanding action of the Sixth Cavalry Group broke the back of the German resistance in the Harlange pocket, which had held up the Corps advance for a period of 11 days. The determination and indomitable fighting spirit of these courageous officers and men exemplify the finest traditions of the Military Service."

By order of the Secretary of War
Official:

Gen DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER
Chief of Staff

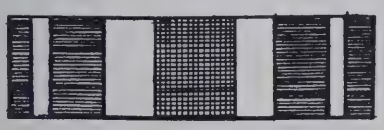
EDWARD F. WITZEL
Major General, the Adjutant General

6th ARMORED CAVALRY
MEDAL OF HONOR
WINNERS



Lt Frank West	1862
Pvt George Platt	1863
Sgt George Martin	1863
Cpl John Connor	1870
Sgt George Eldridge	1870
Cpl John Given	1870
Sgt Thomas Kerrigan	1870
1st Sgt John Kirk	1870
Sgt John May	1870
Pvt Solon Neal	1870
Pvt Samuel Porter	1870
Cpl Charles Smith	1870
1st Sgt Alonzo Stokes	1870
Cpl James Watson	1870
Pvt Claron Windus	1870
Sgt William Winterbottom	1870
Pvt James Anderson	1870
Cpl Samuel Bowden	1870
Cpl Daniel Keating	1870
Sgt Michael Welch	1870
Pvt Ben Wilson	1870
Sgt George Kitchen	1874
Pvt William Morris	1874
Sgt Frederick Neilon	1874
Cpl Edward Sharpless	1874
Sgt Joseph Pennsyl	1874
Pvt John Harrington	1874

Pvt Peter Roth	1874
Pvt George Smith	1874
Sgt Zachariah Woodall	1874
1st Sgt Dennis Ryan	1874
Pvt James Ayers	1875
Pvt Michael Dawson	1875
Pvt Peter Gardiner	1875
Pvt Hornady Simpson	1875
Pvt James Lowthers	1875
Sgt Frederick Platten	1875
Pvt Marcus Robbins	1875
Sgt Richard Tea	1875
Sgt James Brogan	1877
1st Lt William Carter	1881
Pvt Richard Reartery	1881
2nd Lt Thomas Cruse	1882
1st Lt Benjamin Cheever	1891
2nd Lt Robert Howze	1891
Capt John Kerr	1891
Sgt Joseph Knight	1891
Sgt Fred Myers	1891
Cpl Cornelius Smith	1891
Sgt Joseph Anderson	1909
1st Lt Archie Miller	1909
2nd Lt John Kennedy	1909
2nd Lt Arthur Miller	1909



SILVER STAR MEDAL
35 AWARDED

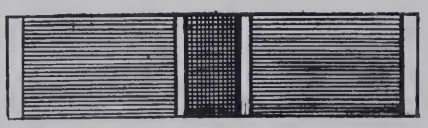
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

1st Lt. Alton Sawin, Jr.....Troop "B", 28th Cav Rcn Sq (Mecz)

Pfc Harold O. Furubotten.....Troop "B", 28th Cav Rcn Sq (Mecz)

Pvt James R. Holland.....Co. "F", 6th Cav Rcn Sq (Mecz)

LEGION OF MERIT
1 AWARDED



BRONZE STAR MEDAL
142 AWARDED

KILLED IN ACTION
DURING WORLD WAR II

Headquarters Troop 6th Cavalry Group
(Mechanized)

Pfc JOSEPH WIERK, 32684007, Germany

6th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (MECZ)

1ST LT EARLE L. WILLIAMS, 01311242, Germany
2ND LT TIMOTHY H. BULLOCK, 01013716, France
2ND LT MICHAEL SZAP, 02006433, Germany
S/Sgt George C. Adams, 7004492, Luxembourg
S/Sgt Otis G. Biggs, 6377022, France
Sgt Frank Benedict, 35029981, Luxembourg
Sgt William H. Dickenson, 7004332, France
Sgt Wiley H. Hedgecoth, 14004623, Germany
Sgt Bille V. Nash, 6656530, Belgium
Sgt Floyd A. Mayfield, 34105666, Luxembourg
Sgt Henry M. Huff, 34042807, Luxembourg
Sgt Sebastian N. Grasso, 32107279, Luxembourg
Sgt Rassie L. Fannin, 6924400, Germany
Sgt Lee R. Capps, 6964324, Germany
Cpl Malvin J. Tanis, 37207211, Belgium
Tec 4 Samuel W. Oswald, 33055892, Luxembourg
Tec 4 Albert P. Steele Jr., 7008518, Luxembourg
Tec 4 Harold A. Shearer, 20323186, Germany
Tec 4 John W. Whitty, 12135043, Germany
Tec 5 Charles J. Druben Jr., 12082088, France
Tec 5 Lonnie H. Mitchell, 6391314, Germany
Tec 5 Charles J. Nettel, 33372281, Belgium
Tec 5 Dewitt C. Patterson, 38189875, Belgium
Tec 5 Robert J. Weaver, 33068246, Luxembourg
Tec 5 Talmer C. Adams, 33073994, Germany
Tec 5 James C. Childress, 6964205, Luxembourg
Tec 5 George N. McCuistion, 7008477, Germany
Tec 5 George A. Igou, 20323623, Germany
Tec 5 Donald R. Lloyd, 20323615, Germany
Tec 5 Raymond P. Ruhl, 34014264, Germany
PFC Charles E. Dagnan, 14004417, France
Pfc James A. Knutson, 37562991, France
Pfc Thomas T. Price, 20323575, Germany
Pfc William M. O'Bryan, 34014269, Belgium
Pfc Jesse F. Farler, 38427609, Belgium
Pfc Kenneth A. Rackley, 38107982, Germany
Pfc Joseph B. White, 6973052, Belgium
Pfc Hubert Hames Jr., 39589870, Germany
Pfc John E. Srigley, 16177528, Germany
Pvt Luther H. Boswell, 34105407, France
Pvt Charles H. Green Jr., 36987710, Germany
Pvt Don M. Gilden, 39478256, Germany
Pvt Jerry L. Spicer, 39590055, Germany
Pvt Harley D. Creamer, 39478106, Germany
Pvt Leon G. Svinkunas, 36726711, Germany
Pvt Samuel J. Killinger, 33027644, Germany

28th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron
(MECZ)

1ST LT NORMAN F. SAMUEL, 01030410, Germany
1ST LT ORVILLE E. CONN JR., 0100965, France
Sgt James A. Leatherwood, 7004601, Luxembourg
Sgt. Charles A. Rolen, 7008484, Germany
Tec 4 Russell B. Sullivan, 34022397, Belgium
Tec 4 Alvin W. Coffman, 7008720, Luxembourg
Tec 4 William E. George, 32044305, Germany
Tec 4 Luther D. Wilson Jr., 14034045, Germany
Cpl Wayne A. Wilkinson, 37004409, Luxembourg
Tec 5 Eugene Brekowitz, 32106517, France
Tec 5 Howard S. Bacon Jr., 32753983, Belgium
Tec 5 Charles L. Burton, 34141165, Luxembourg
Tec 5 Clarence J. Hawkins, 14034108, Luxembourg
Tec 5 Verdia Lyons, 7008652, Luxembourg
Tec 5 Frank J. Rykovyan, 12061781, Luxembourg
Tec 5 Raymond H. Gray 14004546, Luxembourg
Tec 5 Ernest R. Mayfield, 14034160, Luxembourg
Tec 5 Walter T. Trubacz, 32196622, Germany
Tec 5 Robert A. W. Hume, 39202308, Germany
Tec 5 Garth E. Bush, 36683171, Germany
Tec 5 Harvel C. Carter, 7008595, Germany
Tec 5 Jack A. Wagstaff, 39931345, Germany
Pfc Fred E. Lour, 37738008, Germany
Pfc Harold E. Durett, 32240545, Germany
Pfc Mike Furdsk, 36205163, Belgium
Pfc James V. Connors, 32774693, Luxembourg
Pfc Elroy K. Logan, 38394686, Luxembourg
Pfc William C. Parker, Jr., 20324122, Luxemburg
Pfc Alvin W. Nesbitt, 36987912, Germany
Pfc Homer F. Drolette, 32044228, Luxembourg
Pfc Richard W. Bruch, 42000851, Germany
Pfc Bill Cagdill, 35125285, Germany
Pfc Enrique R. Garcia, 38440884, Luxembourg
Pfc Raffaele, Orlando, 11046362, Germany
Pfc Frances E. Dupes, 6967018, Luxembourg
Pfc Alfred A. McKernan, 32063132, Germany
Pfc Richard T. Walters, 37596535, Germany
Pfc Robert E. Shuchart, 20323232, France
Pvt. Clifford H. Taylor, 7008687, France
Pvt Frank J. Davenport, 7004600, France
Pvt Valentine C. Wiseman, 38694845, Luxembourg
Pvt Wayne L. Weeks, 36987838, Germany
Pvt Edward C. Lawson, 39589968, Germany
Pvt Robert A. Schneider, 37733805, Germany
Pvt William M. Wilson, 34685846, Belgium
Pvt Mike Vida, 35831538, Germany
Pvt Everet H. Waterland, 37596644, Germany
Pvt Anthony J. Mirabella, 33470942, Germany

FORMER COMMANDERS

Colonel
David Hunter
May 1861 - June 1866

Colonel
James Oakes
June 1866 - April 1879

Colonel
Eugene Carr
April 1879 - July 1892

Colonel
George B. Sanford
July 1892

PICTURE
NOT
AVAILABLE

Colonel
David S. Gordon
July 1892 - May 1896

Colonel
Samuel Sumner
May 1896 - March 1901

Colonel
Theodore Wint
March 1901 - June 1902

PICTURE
NOT
AVAILABLE

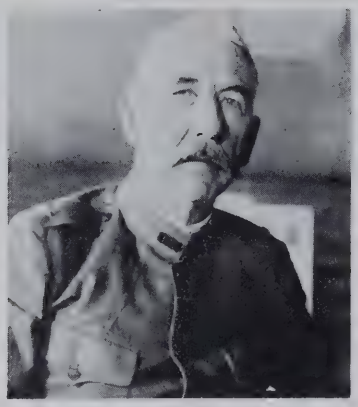
Colonel
Allen Smith
June 1902 - March 1905

PICTURE
NOT
AVAILABLE

Colonel
William Stanton
March 1905 - March 1906

Colonel
Alexander Rogers
March 1906 - January 1911

Colonel
Charles O'Connor
January 1911 - April 1914



Colonel
Joseph A. Gaston
May 1914 - December 1916

Colonel
Frederick S. Foltz
1919 - 1921

PICTURE
NOT
AVAILABLE

Colonel
Robert R. Wallach
1921 - 1922

Colonel
Robert J. Fleming
1922 - 1925

Colonel
George C. Barnhart
1925 - 1927

Lt Colonel
Harry N. Cootes
1927

Colonel
Thomas A. Roberts
1927 - 1929

Lt Colonel
Henry T. Bull
1929

Colonel
Evan Humphrey
1929 - 1931

Colonel
Gordon Johnston
1931 - 1933

PICTURE
NOT
AVAILABLE

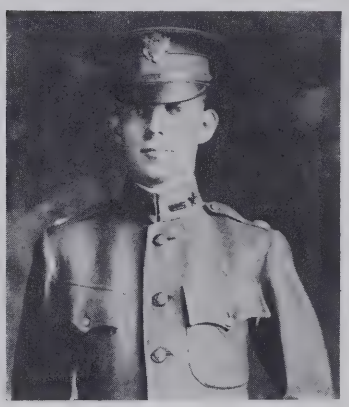
Lt Colonel
Walter Goodwin
1933

Colonel
Walter S. Grant
January 1934 - March 1935

Colonel
Llewellyn Oliver
June 1935 - 1936

Colonel
Charles Burnett
1936 - 1937

Colonel
George Dillman
1937 - 1939



Colonel
John Millikin
1939 - 1940

Colonel
John A. Considine
1940 - July 1942

Colonel
Edward M. Fickett
July 1942 - June 1944
Sept 1944 - July 1945

PICTURE
NOT
AVAILABLE

Colonel
W. W. Cornog
July 1944

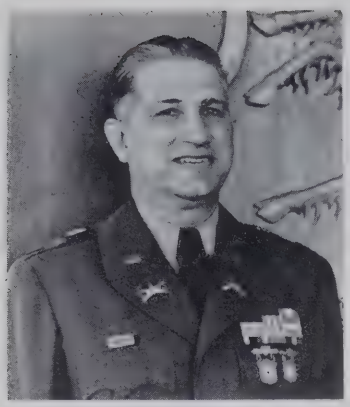
Lt. Colonel
James H. Polk
July 1944 - Sept 1944

PICTURE
NOT
AVAILABLE

Lt. Colonel
Samuel McGoodwin
July 1945 - Oct 1945

Colonel
William T. Hamilton
December 1945 - August 1948

Colonel
Harry J. Wheaton
August 1948 - Oct 1949



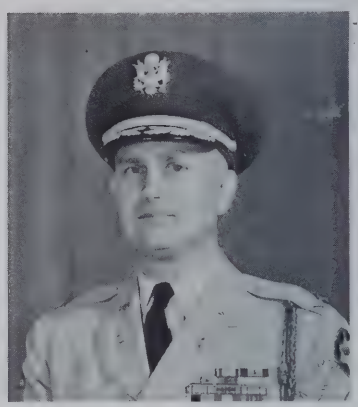
Colonel
George A. Rehm
Oct 1949 - June 1951

Colonel
Rothwell Brown
May 1951 - May 1952

Colonel
Howard Snyder Jr.
May 1952 - Aug 1953

Colonel
Harold J. Davall
Aug 1953 - June 1954

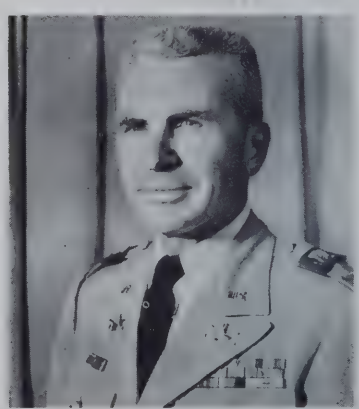
Colonel
D. P. Christensen
June 1954 - July 1955



Colonel
John K. Boles
July 1955 - March 1957

Colonel
Charles Lydecker
March 1957 - Sept. 1957

Colonel
Tracy B. Harrington
Sept 1957 - 4 June 1959



Colonel
Edward C. Dunn
4 June 1959

Major
Lawrence Williams
Mar - May 1862

NOTE: Major Williams commanded the 6th Cavalry during their first combat actions. Although Col Hunter remained in nominal command throughout the Civil War, he never served with the regiment. An explanation of this is found in the text.

General of the Armies
JOHN J. PERSHING

"The Fighting Sixth's"

Most Distinguished Member

LT. PERSHING - Pine Ridge
South Dakota 1891
6th Cavalry

GENERAL OF THE ARMIES
WASHINGTON

TO THE 6th UNITED STATES CAVALRY:

Way back in 1886, I joined Troop L, 6th Cavalry, at Fort Bayard, New Mexico. Direct from cadet life at West Point, my first thrill as an officer of the Army came through service in that splendid regiment. With a record of gallantry and hard fighting initiated in the Civil War, it had just participated in the Apache campaign. During the five years following, in a school of practical soldiering such as scouting expeditions and Indian campaigns, the traditions of the old Army and the duties of the hour were our creed.

I look back upon those days, oftentimes accompanied by privation and hardship incident to service on the frontier, under the leadership of men who knew the life, as ideal training for a young officer. I have come to appreciate my experience of those days more and more as the years go by. The Sixth was my first love, and it will always have a warm place in my heart. Its record of achievement and loyalty is unsurpassed by that of any other regiment.

To the officers and men of the Sixth Cavalry of today I send my personal greetings and my congratulations on your good fortune in serving your country under the standard of such a distinguished organization.

John J. Pershing

HISTORY

When it became apparent that war between the states was inevitable, President Lincoln's first thought for manpower was toward that paper giant, the militia—3,000,000 men in nominal strength, but actually a huge, unorganized, untrained mob.

Nothing had been done about the state militia since 1826, when James Barbour, then Secretary of War, made a half-hearted, and unsuccessful attempt to regularize and standardize their training. He also attempted to revise the ancient statute of 28 February 1795, which authorized the President to call the State Militia into Federal Service, for not longer than three months, subject always to the acquiescence of the Governor concerned. Secretary Barbour's letter to all Governor evoked much discussion, and while most of them agreed that three months was too short a time, nothing was done.

Now in 1861, the failure of the government to change this statute, loomed as an insurmountable barrier to the raising of a large army on short notice. Most governors were willing to obey the call of the President, but would send their militia for three months only.

To all intents and purposes then, when the call did come, 15 April 1861 for 75,000 militia, the heterogenous mass that responded to the call could only be compared in training and equipment to the armed rabble who rallied around Boston in 1775. So the President with rebellion in his back yard, as the Confederate Forces gathering in nearby Virginia threatened the Capitol, by proclamation, and without authority of Congress, on 3 May 1861, increased the regular army by some 22,000 men, the navy by 18,000 men, and called for a volunteer force of about 42,000.

President Lincoln's prompt action added eleven new regiments to the army, one each of cavalry and artillery, and nine of infantry. Consequently on 4 May 1861 a new regiment of cavalry, the 3rd came into being.

The activation of the 3rd Cavalry made a total of six mounted regiments in the fledgling US Army. Three regiments of cavalry, two regiments of dragoons, and one regiment of mounted riflemen.

The mission and general organization of all six of these regiments was practically alike, so on 3 August 1861, Congress reorganized all mounted troops into one branch, Cavalry, and renumbered the regiments according to seniority. The results of this numbering system, which has plagued military historians ever since, changed the numerical designation of the 3rd Cavalry to the 6th United States Cavalry.

Although reorganized many times since that date, the regiment has always borne the numeral 6 in its designation, being successively, the 6th United States Cavalry, the 6th Horse-Mechanized-Corps Reconnaissance Regiment, the 6th Corps Reconnaissance Regiment (Mechanized), the 6th Cavalry Group (Mechanized) the 6th Constabulary Regiment and finally the 6th Armored Cavalry.

Colonel, Later Brigadier General, David Hunter of the 1st Dragoons was appointed as the original commander of the 6th Cavalry. Oddly enough, although General Hunter remained in nominal command until 1866, he apparently never served with or even saw his own command. Research indicates he served as Adjutant General of the state of Illinois during the war years. This was not surprising for this time of our history inasmuch as officers and enlisted men often served their entire period of service with one unit. National promotion systems did not exist, consequently when an officer was promoted it was to a position vacancy, hence General Hunter was appointed as Colonel in command of the 6th United States Cavalry. Whether or not General Hunter took part in the forming of the new regiment is not known, but he did not accompany it when it entered its first combat action, just a year to the day from the organization day. There is a dual purpose in celebrating the 6th's Organization Day, it not only marks the date of its founding, but also is the anniversary of the first combat action.

The first soldiers of the 6th came from the volunteers called for by President Lincoln, who without regard to background, previous experience or training were relegated to the various newly organized regiments. One thing that was to stand the regiment in good stead however was the fact that it was a regular army regiment and as such was under the leadership of trained officers rather than civilian volunteers raised to rank by various state governors. The first two years of the war were to prove that there is no substitute for training and experience. Perhaps the only thing that can be said in favor of the new crop of recruits is that they were more used to discipline than the Southerners, and as such were more amenable to regimentation.

The struggles of the fledgling 6th to become a fighting unit is not recorded. Most of their training and equipping was accomplished at a camp near Bladensburg, Maryland, later named Camp Sheridan. Although we have little knowledge of the events that took place in the regiment's first year of life, using as a source the experiences of contemporary regiments, also struggling for life, we can pretty well summarize what was going on. Captain Vanderbilt of the 10th New York Cavalry, describes some of his experiences in part as follows:

"My company had been mustered into the service only about six weeks, and we had received horses about a month before we were to act as an escort troop for visiting officials. In the issue of horses and equipment we drew everything on the list, in fact there was nothing on the printed list of supplies that we did not get. Many men had extra blankets, nice large quilts presented by a doting mother or maiden aunt, sabres and belts, together with straps that pass over the shoulders, carbines and slings, pockets full of cartridges, nose bags, and extra little bags for carrying oats, haversacks, canteens and spurs. curry combs, brushes, ponchos, button tents, overcoats, frying pans, coffee pots, and Lord knows what else.

"When the company attempted to mount, such a rattling, jingling, scrabling and cursing I never heard before. Green horses, some of them had never been ridden before, turned round and round, backed up against each other, jumped up or stood up like circus trained horses. Some of the men had a pile on the front of their saddle, and one in the rear, so heavy and high it took two men to saddle one horse, and two men to help the fellow into the saddle.

"The horses sheered out, going sidewise, pushing the well disposed animals out of position. Some of the men, who had never ridden anything since they galloped a hobby-horse, clasped their legs close together, unconsciously sticking their spurs into their horses sides.

"Blankets slipped from under saddles, and hung from one corner; saddles slipped back until they were on the rumps of the horses, others turned and were on the underside of the animal; horses running and kicking, tin pans and mess gear flying through the air, and above it all could be heard over and over again, 'Whoa, Gawdammit, Whoa.' All I could do was give a hasty glance to the rear, and sing out at the top of my voice, Close Up."

Although the above remarks were made by a company commander from another regiment, it can well be imagined that problems were about the same. In spite of the many headaches, and problems to be solved the regiment managed to attain some measure of training, and entered their first action on 4 May 1862, just a year to the day from their formation.

The 6th continued its training through the balance of the year 1861, and into the first months of 1862. It was apparent that both the Confederates and the Union forces were in no hurry to engage in battle, both sides realizing the need for training after the fiasco of Bull Run. Neither the Southerners nor the Federal Forces had much to be proud of after that bloody affair was over. The North which had been decisively beaten retired to lick its wounds and the South failed to exploit a victory that probably would have culminated in the capture of Washington and the probable end of the war.

Finally in March 1862, General George McClellan, after much pressure from President Lincoln, moved his army by water from camps around Washington to the Virginia Peninsula between the York and the James Rivers, with the avowed intention of moving against Richmond, the Confederate Capitol.

With the Union Army as part of the Cavalry Brigade went the fledgling 6th Cavalry.

Fighting on the Peninsula was sporadic, and the Northern forces as usual dissipated their Cavalry forces and used them mostly as messengers and small reconnaissance units. During the campaign the 6th had several minor skirmishes and at least one pitched battle.

The pitched battle came about in the vicinity of the city of Williamsburg, Virginia, and marked the first time the 6th had been in action.

About 1500 hours on 4 May 1862, the forward elements of McClellan's Army became engaged with Confederate forces on the outskirts of Williamsburg. Major Lawrence Williams, commanding the 6th, was ordered to take the regiment, make a detour through some woods and flank an enemy battery that was creating havoc with the Union Forces.

Major Williams took command, proceeded through the woods and tried to carry out his mission. However when he reached his assigned position he found himself facing a well entrenched enemy, and subject to heavy fire.

A deep ditch in front of the enemy position made it impossible for the regiment to attack as a unit. Trying to find a way around to carry out his mission, the regiment was surprised by a large force of enemy infantry who had slipped through the woods and suddenly opened fire. The position was untenable and Major Williams determined to retire. Most of the regiment had reached a position of safety when two troops of enemy cavalry debouched from the woods and attempted to cut off one troop, commanded by a Captain Sanders.

Major Williams immediately ordered one of his squadrons to attack and by great gallantry was able to extricate the beseiged troop. Unfortunately history does not tell us which troops were engaged so the honor of being the first troop of the 6th Cavalry in action is unknown. It was on this field that the first of many combat casualties occurred. When the regiment was once again assembled it was found that two enlisted men and one officer had been killed, and about 20 enlisted men missing in action either wounded or captured.

On the 26th of June the battle of Mechanicsville took place, which resulted in a stinging defeat for the South, but General McClellan again failed to exploit his advantage and proceeded to fortify the village of Mechanicsville, and occupy his time with minor skirmishing and patrols, utilizing his cavalry regiments for this purpose.

It was on one of these patrols that the 6th became involved for the first time with General J.E.B. Stuart, the finest cavalry commander on either side. The incident is not important from the standpoint of what the 6th did, but rather where they were when it happened.

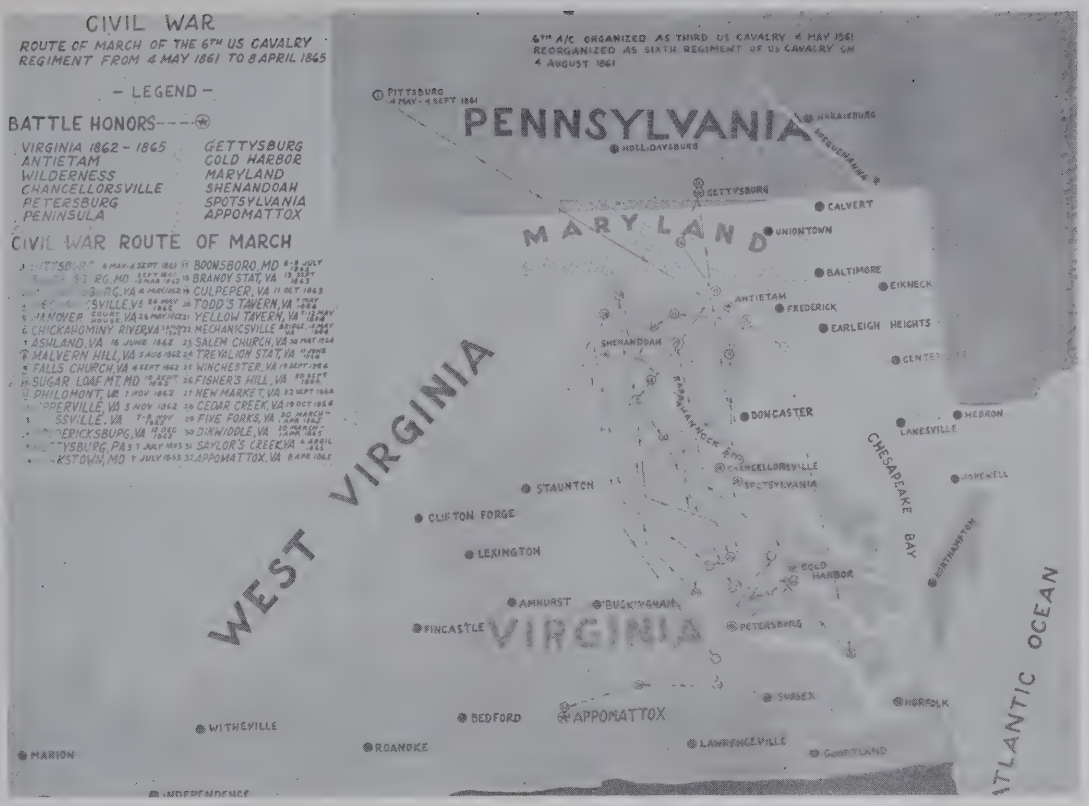
General Lee, who had assumed command of the Army of Virginia, ordered General Stuart to find the right flank of McClellan's Army, and if possible attack the outlying units. Stuart, therefore left Richmond in November of 1862, and headed north toward Mechanicsville, with 1200 of the best Confederate Cavalry. Near Mechanicsville, the Confederate troopers were seen by a small patrol from the 6th Cavalry. The Confederates immediately gave chase and succeeded in capturing one of the Union Troopers when his horse fell with him, the rest of the patrol escaped.

Pushing on to the North and West for some ten miles General Stuart was able to secure the information he had been sent to get, and under normal conditions probably would have returned to Richmond by the same route. However having been seen by the patrol from the 6th Cavalry, he reasoned that a much larger force would attempt to block his return. Hence he made the decision to count on surprise and turned sharply to the east, and returned to Richmond three days later having ridden completely around McClellan's army. This is one of the few stories to come out of the early days of the war that has verification. General Stuart's Adjutant General, who rode throughout the war with him, verifies the incident and also identifies the Federal soldiers as members of the 6th United States Cavalry.

For the balance of the year 1862 the 6th was constantly on the move, taking part in such famous action as Sugar Loaf Mountain, Water Ford, Philomont, Barbee's Crossroads, Upperville, Amissville and finally Fredericksburg.

A look at the map of Virginia will show that these places are widely separated, so it is probable that the 6th did not act as a regiment but as small patrols or maneuver elements attached to larger commands. It was just such assignments during the first two years of the war that dissipated the strength of the Union Cavalry and made them more or less ineffective.

In the meantime General Burnside had replaced General McClellan as Commander of the Army, and once again the 6th was to take part in one of the first actions



of a campaign.

On the 12th of December 1862, Troops D and K were ordered to cross the Rappahanock River in the vicinity of Fredericksburg, Virginia, and make a reconnaissance of the Confederate positions beyond the city. As the troops approached the town they were fired on by a battery of artillery in the outskirts of the city. Although eleven men were killed and a number wounded the mission was successfully concluded, and the desired information was returned to General Burnside.

This action at Fredericksburg concluded the fighting of the 6th for the year 1862, a year that saw the regiment change from a group of raw recruits to a well seasoned, field hardened capable fighting unit.

During the year the regiment had been awarded four battle streamers, Virginia 1862, Antietam, Fredericksburg and Peninsula.

The regiment had been blooded, and could now count themselves as combat veterans, but for another year the great resources of the North were wasted by incompetence, and Cavalry dissipated by detail. It was initially attached to Infantry commands and rather futilely used on petty defensive assignments such as outposts and patrols, as orderlies, messengers, and grooms for staff officers, and as escorts for slow moving wagon trains which Infantry could have done equally as well.

It took two years to train a Cavalryman, for the duties required a higher order of intelligence and initiative than the other branches, and a good trooper had to be equally efficient mounted or dismounted. The waste during this time was fabulous. About 248,000 horses were furnished to never more than 60,000 men in the field, which was an average of almost five horses per man, and as the actual number in the field was usually well below this number, the real wastage was even larger. One swallow too much of water given to heated horses on long marches, by the "green," Union Cavalryman in the early part of the war meant fantastic losses in horseflesh.

It was in things like this that the more experienced Confederate horsemen had such an advantage at the start.

Gradually some order was brought out of this chaos, and in June of 1863, the Federal Cavalry under General Pleasonton, fought the bloody battle of Brandy Station, with General J.E.B. Stuart's Corps. The 6th Cavalry was very much a part of this battle, and it marked the first time the Federal Cavalry had "slugged it out" on about equal terms with the Confederates.

On the 9th of June, 1863, the regiment crossed the Rappahannock River and participated in the action at Beverly Ford, Virginia. The regiment fought for the most part dismounted, and their losses were heavy, a total of 68 officers and men killed, wounded or missing in action. The battle itself was a draw, with both sides disengaging about the same time. A few hours after with-

drawing the 6th Cavalry again forded the river and managed to capture several prisoners.

Similar actions, as well as continued picket duty during the month of June, did much to lower the effective fighting strength of the regiment. Although reduced in strength and weary from continuous duty, on 3 July 1863, during the battle of Gettysburg, "The Fighting Sixth," stood up to two of General Stuart's brigades and stopped them cold. General Stuart was attempting to gain the rear of the Union Forces, south and east of the town of Gettysburg, to disrupt lines of communications, and create confusion in control of the battle. The 6th Cavalry, probably swinging around the south flank of the battle, was coming from the little town of Fairfield, where they had been engaged in a major skirmish two days before, ran headlong into General Stuart's attacking column. It was a complete surprise to both sides, and the ensuing battle was one of the bloodiest fought by the 6th Cavalry in all its years of history. This action denied General Lee the services of General Stuart at a time he could least afford it, and the rear of the Union lines was secured.

It was a costly battle for the regiment; when the fighting was over, they marched from the field of battle only twelve officers and two hundred and forty-two enlisted men strong. For individual heroism on the part of two soldiers of the regiment, two Medals of Honor were awarded.

If any one action of the Gettysburg campaign can be singled out as the decisive one that assured victory to the North, the gallant fight of the 6th Cavalry, could well be that action.

The sudden and severe reduction in strength of the regiment, somewhat curtailed their activities for the balance of the year 1863. Most of the assigned duties were as escort troops, and headquarters security. The regiment did however participate in the battle of Culpepper and Brandy Station, almost a repeat of the battle of June 1863 at the same place. During this battle, and while trying to improve its position by getting on the flank of the enemy the regiment moved to the rear and left of the action near Brandy Station. In passing around a thickly wooded area, the regiment was mistaken for Confederate troops, and were fired on by another 6th Cavalry Regiment, the 6th New York Cavalry. In this brief skirmish with friendly troops the regiment lost one sergeant killed, and two officers and two enlisted men wounded.

It is hard for a modern day soldier to understand why a regular army unit would be permitted to fight at such a reduced strength, for an extended period of time, so perhaps an explanation is appropriate.

Replacement systems as we know today were non-existent in the Civil War. Regular army personnel, often served their entire military career in the same regiment, being promoted as vacancies occurred. The War Department at that time refused to use experienced, battle hardened officers in volunteer units, so there was no officer pool from which to draw replacements, and replace casualties. There wasn't at that time the National Army we know today, rather each state raised its own regiments, commissioned its own officers, and in some cases uniformed the troops in some of the most outlandish uniforms ever seen.

It is true that in 1863 the first attempt at National Conscription was tried. Because of the many loopholes in the law, such as buying a deferment, substitution of another person, and plain evasion, the system was almost useless. Actually less than two percent of the total manpower throughout the Civil War came from this much hated law, and of that two percent, not more than one man in a hundred ever became a reliable soldier.

This then is the reason why the 6th Cavalry, and other regiments, particularly regular army regiments finished the war greatly reduced in strength.

In spite of this enforced reduction in manpower (the 6th at one time during 1863, numbered twelve officers and two hundred and thirty nine men in the entire regiment), the regiment continued to fight, winning for itself during the year 1863, the campaign streamers, Virginia 1863, Chancelorsville, Maryland, and one of the regiment's proudest, Gettysburg.

In 1864, the Federal Cavalry really came into its own as a power to be reckoned with when Phillip Sheridan was placed in command of all Cavalry of the Army of the Potomac. "Little Phil", as his men called him, may have been short in stature, but he became the giant and genius of the Union Cavalry.

On 11 May 1864, the Federal and Confederate Cavalry met head on at Yellow Tavern, Virginia. The 6th acting as escort for the Union Corps and under the command of Captain Ira Claflin, acquitted itself with distinction and was actively engaged with J.E.B. Stuart's Cavalry when that great leader of the South received his death wound. Yellow Tavern was a decided victory for the North, as had been most major battles since Gettysburg.

The 6th was also present at Cedar Creek on 19 October 1864, when General Jubal Early, of the Confederate Forces nearly won back all that had been lost in the Shenandoah campaign. It was an indication of the personal leadership and magnetism of General Sheridan, that

what had started out to be a rout for the Union Forces was turned into a splendid Union victory, that sealed off the Shenandoah Valley as an invasion route for the South for the balance of the war.

The incident is immortalized in Thomas Buchanan Reed's sentimental poem that almost every schoolboy has had to memorize, "Sheridan Twenty Miles Away." The first stanza begins:

"Up from the South at break of day
Bringing to Winchester fresh dismay
The affrighted air with a shudder bore
Like a herald in haste, to the Chieftain's door
The terrible grumble, and rumble, and roar,
Telling the battle was on once more,
And Sheridan twenty miles away."

The poem goes on to tell of the ride of General Sheridan, from Winchester to Cedar Creek, and of his personal rallying of the retreating Union Troops. It is probable that members of the 6th Cavalry accompanied Sheridan on that ride, inasmuch as they were assigned as headquarters troops, and personal escort to the General.

For the balance of the year, the Federal Cavalry tore away the remnants of Jubal Early's Army, laying waste to the entire Shenandoah Valley, so that as General Grant said, "If a crow flies over it he will have to bring his own food."

During December of 1864, the 6th Cavalry was at the lowest strength ever to be recorded in all its history of ninety nine years. Four officers and two hundred and twenty five men present for duty.

For the year 1864, the regiment is entitled to campaign streamers reading, Virginia 1864, Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor and Shenandoah.

As 1865 dawned, the 6th Cavalry was still a part of General Sheridan's Cavalry Corps, and unlike the early years of the war, successful in almost every engagement. The South was definitely reeling, and falling back with every attack, losing men and equipment that could not be replaced.

Just prior to the battle of Five Forks, in March of 1865, the regiment once again distinguished itself, by defeating a numerically superior enemy, and holding the position won, until ammunition being exhausted, the regiment was withdrawn and replaced by fresh troops. This action took place at Dinwiddie, Virginia, and was the prelude to the battle of Five Forks which took place two days later.

During the battle of Five Forks, the 6th Cavalry occupying the extreme right flank of the Union Army, went into action late in the afternoon of 31 March 1865. By the next afternoon the battle was over and the Union Forces completely successful. It was almost the end of the war for the Confederacy, over 7,000 prisoners being taken as a result of this action. The 6th contributed its share of victory by capturing four pieces of Confederate artillery.

On the 6th of April, the 6th took part in the tight at Sailor's Creek, Virginia, losing no men, and assisting in the capture of over 10,000 Confederate troops.

Three days later, on the 9th of April, the regiment was again on the attack, but on charging the Confederate lines were met by a flag of truce and a request that the fighting stop inasmuch as General Grant and General Lee were already conferring on surrender terms. At 1600 hours the announcement of the surrender was made to the troops, and fighting came to an end.

Three more campaign streamers were awarded to the 6th Cavalry for the year 1865. Virginia 1865, Petersburg, and Appomattox.

At the end of the Civil War, in April 1865, things were in a frightful mess on the Western frontier, and along the Mexican border. The Indians had taken full advantage of the distractions of the conflict and loosed a fury of attacks aaginst the settlements. Actually all the gain that had been made for twenty years before the war, was lost when the troops were withdrawn from that section of the country. The welcome peace after Appomattox, focused attention on these distant troubles which had been obscured by nearer and more vital elements.

As these troubles became more and more evident, Cavalry units were dispatched to the west, and once there entered a phase of our National history, that has been portrayed as one of the most romantic as well as the most bloody eras in our history. It is true that in movies, television and novels one of the most often pictured situations is "The United States Cavalry to the rescue." This may sound trite, and in some cases a little unbelievable, but it is a fact that between 1865 and 1898, the United States Army, mostly Cavalry, fought no less than 943 engagements against the Indians, running the gamut from minor skirmishes to pitched battles. A total of thirteen campaign streamers were authorized by the United States for these campaigns.

The 6th Cavalry, after action in the vicinity of Appomattox, and the end of the Civil War, was stationed at Camp Sheridan, near Frederick, Maryland. While at Camp

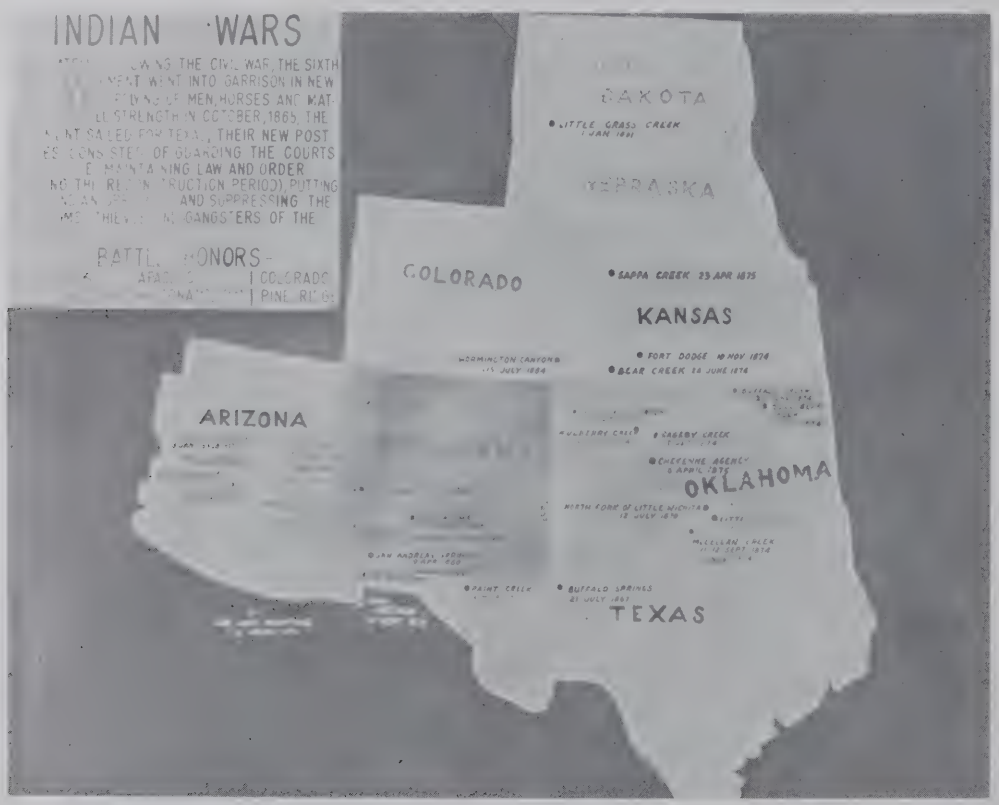
Sheridan, the regiment re-fitted, and brought their strength up to over 600 officers and men. In October of 1865, the entire 6th Cavalry boarded ship and sailed for Texas, and the new frontier. The exact date of sailing is unknown, but the regiment went by way of New Orleans, and probably landed at Galveston, Texas, setting up the first regimental CP in the vicinity of Austin.

From 1866 to 1871, the regiment spent its time in the state of Texas, constantly moving, with the assigned mission of preventing border trouble with Mexico. During these years the 6th Cavalry had a total of sixty seven different Command Posts, an average of at least one movement every twenty five days. Small wonder then that the Cavalry Trooper of this period was a hardened seasoned campaigner, who could take care of himself in almost any emergency.

The officer and noncommissioned corps of that period were among the best the United States has ever had. Almost to a man they were veterans of the Civil War, and most had combat experience. The noncommissioned officer corps was bettered by the enlistment of many former Confederate officers, some of high rank. Under existing law they were denied the opportunity of holding a commission, but could and usually did become the first sergeants and sergeant majors of this fine army.

Precise and detailed information of troop movements and actions during the frontier period is almost nonexistent. There were no typewriters or mimeograph machines, and few newspapers on the frontier. Reports rendered by commanding officers were sketchy, and as often as not verbal rather than written. Orders issued to troops were general in nature, they had to be, because most situations developed after the fighting had started. Mostly it was a monstrous game of hide and seek, with the penalties of being "caught", death or torture. Sometimes the troopers were the hiders and sometimes the seekers, or the roles could be reversed in a matter of minutes.

There are some stories and newspaper articles, usually written by reporters accompanying the troops, but these are pretty florid, and written in the style of the day which minimized individual or small unit actions, and merely spoke of "the troops", or "the cavalry". However, by correlating time and place factors some valuable information has been gleaned from these old files. Some of it is based on pure conjecture, and almost all of it is at best probable, but it is the only information available. A newly developed source of information is gradually coming into being. Publishing houses are finding that books written by officers while serving with these frontier units, and long out of print, contain much valuable information, and are enjoyed by the general public. As a result every new book list usually contains one or more of these books, and are a great asset to all historians.



The 6th Cavalry was introduced to Indian fighting, 21 July 1867, at Buffalo Springs, Texas, where a large war party attacked the post while the bulk of the Troops were away on a scouting mission. Troops A and E in garrison at the time repulsed the attack without a loss.

On the 12th of July 1870, elements of the regiment were surprised by a war party of about two hundred and fifty Indians, near Wichita Creek, Texas. A five hour

fight developed in which two troopers were killed and nine wounded. Although details of the fight, and what happened immediately afterwards are lost in antiquity, records show that sixteen Medals of Honor were awarded to troopers of the 6th for individual bravery. Again on 5 October there was another fight at the same place, details are lacking, but four Medals of Honor were awarded as a result.

Fort Apache — 1874

The year 1874 was a busy one for the 6th Cavalry, numbering thirty two different Command Posts in Kansas, Colorado, Indian Territory, and Texas. The battles fought, the victories, and the defeats (there were many of those) are unrecorded, but during this year nine more Medals of Honor were won by troopers of the 6th. These medals were for actions at Sappa Creek, Kansas, and Gageby Creek, Texas.

It would seem that with so many Medals of Honor being awarded, the details of the fighting would be an open book, and reconstruction of events simple. However prior to 1900 the medal was awarded on the recommendation of the commander concerned, without deails being necessary. Therefore although it is known where these various actions took place we know little of actual events. Most of the citations merely read, "for gallantry in action," of "for bravery." This unfortunate omission on the part of the War Department denies a source of information that would be invaluable.

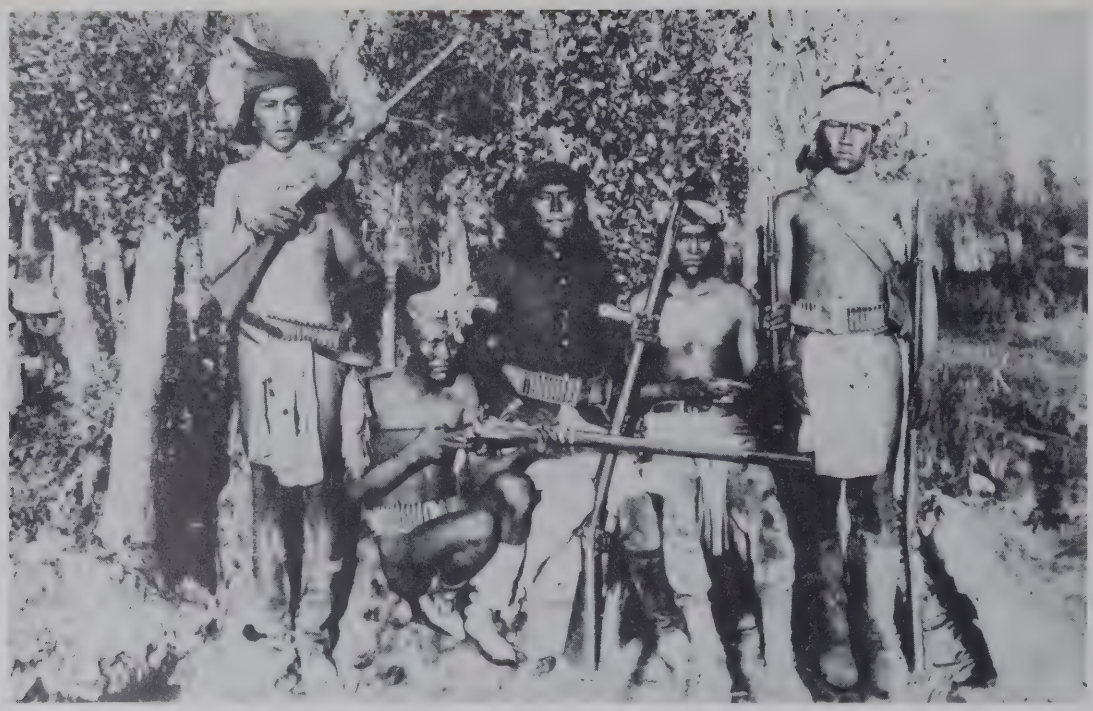
Constant fighting with the Indians meant continued hardship, and in many cases death. The Indians knowing the country better than the "pony soldiers", and often armed with better and more modern rifles than the troopers, learned new methods of fighting from the soldiers and adapted it to their own use. In one post cemetary on the frontier, all but three of the headstones read "tortured and killed by Apaches".

After the invention of the Gatling Gun, by Professor Richard J. Gatling, and its adoption by the army late in the century, massed Indian attacks became a thing of the past, and a few soldiers could defeat a greatly superior force of Indians.

So it went on the frontier. The idea never being to completely destroy the Indian, but to subdue him and prevent him from waging war. It was a matter of civilization catching up with the Western Frontier.

No account of the Indian Wars could be complete without mention of that "wily old cutthroat", Geronimo. His story is much too complicated and long to retell here, and most of his exploits can be found in any good history book. But once again the 6th Cavalry was to have a share in glory.

The final capture of Geronimo came, when Lt Charles B. Gatewood, 6th Cavalry, who had often led Apache scouts and knew their ways well, ventured ahead of a pursuing column, commanded by General George Crook, into the mountain fastness where Geronimo was hiding, and managed to have a talk with him. It was a most courageous act for Lt Gatewood's life was at the mercy



Five Indian Scouts who served with the 6th Cavalry during some of the Indian campaigns.

Geronimo in captivity.

of the savages. But he persuaded Geronimo to surrender in July of 1886. Oddly enough there is no record of any decoration or distinction being awarded Lt. Gatewood as a result of his brave act.

With the exception of the Pine Ridge Campaign in South Dakota in 1890, sometimes called the "Wounded Knee Massacre", the capture of Geronimo pretty well ended the major Indian fighting on the frontier.

It was in this Pine Ridge fighting that the 6th Cavalry won their last Medals of Honor during the Indian Campaigns. On the 1st day of January 1891 Troop K was enroute to Regimental Headquarters at Wounded Knee Creek when they were attacked by a large band of Sioux Indians. One sergeant and four enlisted men fought their way to Regimental Headquarters, through the attacking Sioux, and summoned help. Troops A, F, H and I were sent to relieve Troop K, and succeeded in defeating the Indians. Many acts of bravery during this last fight were rewarded with the Medal of Honor.

Well seasoned troopers of the 6th United States Cavalry. Picture probably taken at Fort Wingate, New Mexico, about 1887.

Officers and ladies of the 6th United States Cavalry in front of Headquarters Building, Fort Wingate, New Mexico, in 1887. Lt John J. Pershing, later to command the AEF in France, is the officer seated in the front row wearing a cape.

Headquarters in the field, Troop K, 6th United States Cavalry. Picture was probably taken in South Dakota in 1890 or 1891. Personnel in the picture are the officers assigned Troop K at that time.

Before the 6th Cavalry was completely through with Indian troubles, they had one assignment that was laughable. In February of 1907, personnel of the 6th were assigned as glorified truant officers, in Colorado and Utah. Their mission was to enforce attendance at school of the children of the Ute Indians. The Utes, unhappy with their treatment had refused to send their children to "the white man's school". The mental picture of a brawny, seasoned trooper leading an unwilling Indian child to school by the hand, need no further remarks.

Life became a routine affairs in the cavalry regiments after the taming of the Indians. For the first time in nearly fifty years peace and quiet reigned on the plains and in the mountains, and the mounted service had a chance to catch its breath and relax in the more leisurely tempo of garrison life.

The next real change came on the fateful night of 15 February 1898, with the explosion that sent the USS Maine to the bottom of Havana harbor. This event changed the course of our national history and pointed the army toward a new frontier. Two hundred and sixty six officers and men in the United States Navy, met sudden and unexpected death in the Maine's twisted hull. Rocked by the shocking news, the American people exploded in a frenzy that could not be denied.

War against Spain was declared on 25 April 1898, and the 6th Cavalry a regular army unit, combat ready at all times, was called from their camp at Fort Robinson, Nebraska, and were sent to Tampa Florida, for embarkation to Cuba.

No American can look with pride at some of the events that transpired after the declaration of war. The United States was not only not ready for war, but didn't seem to know how to go about preparing for it. There were no plans, no stockpiles of supplies, no transportation, and no training camps. The country knew they were at war, the popular battle cry was "On to Havana", the soldier was everywhere idolized, and the civilian populace wildly excited, the only trouble that no one knew how the "On to Havana", was to be accomplished.

In the midst of all this hurly-burly, flashed the news of Admiral Dewey's victory at Manila. Then came the news that Admiral Schley had the Spanish fleet "bottled up", at Santiago. In short the Navy forced the Army's hand. Land forces had to invade the land area where the Spanish fleet was being held at bay.

As a result of this, an expeditionary force was formed from the hordes camped in and around Tampa, Florida. Only 16,000 men out of a hoped for 70,000 could be found with sufficient training and equipment for the Cuban campaign. One of the few units completely ready was the 6th Cavalry.

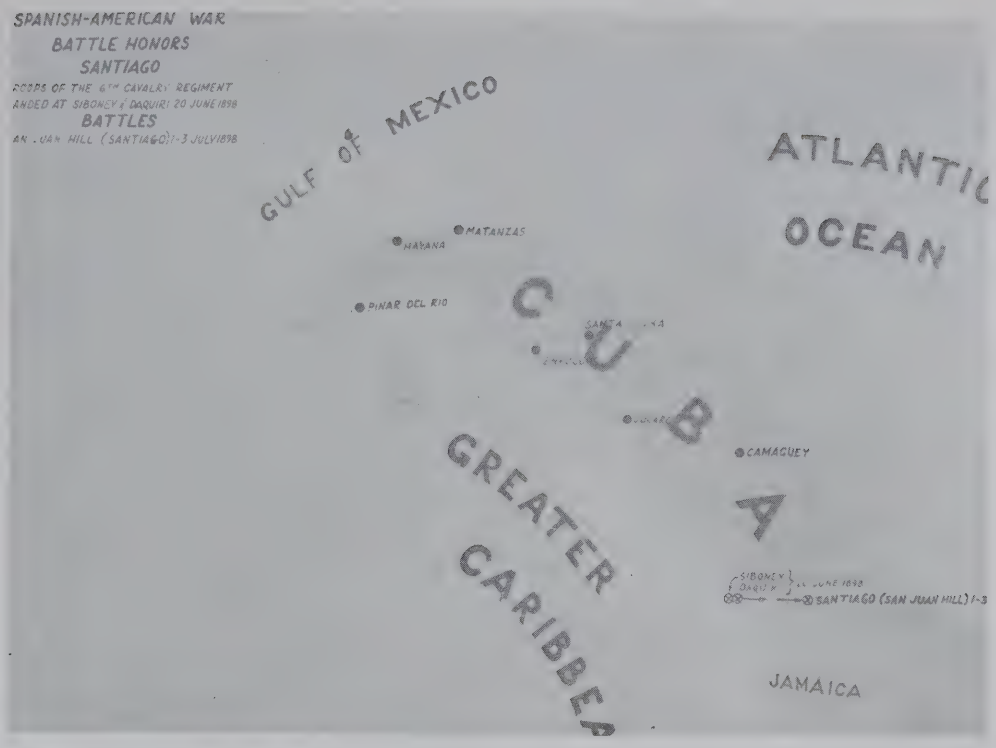
All 16,000 men, the cavalry horses, and equipment were crammed into civilian transports, at the port of Tampa, and after seemingly endless delays finally sailed for Cuba. The troopers sweltering in heavy wool uniforms, in 90 degree heat, were packed in the ship's holds where many became violently ill from a combination of heat and sea sickness. It was certainly not a pleasure cruise. But all things must end, and after a few days of steaming the ships were anchored off the coast of Cuba, at two little villages, Daquiri, and Siboney, some fifteen miles east of Santiago.

It was here that the civilian transport captains, almost caused the whole venture to end in failure. They absolutely refused to risk their ships close to shore, and could offer no suggestions on how to unload their ships. Three small navy lighters finally came to their aid, and all equipment was transhipped and landed on shore. This posed a special problem for the Cavalry, as they had to unload their horses. After many suggestions and arguments they were simply dumped overboard to swim ashore. This was fine for the horses that headed for shore, but many of them headed out to sea in spite of all the troopers could do, and eventually drowned. Fortunately for the expeditionary force there was no active opposition to their landing. If there had been a determined stand by the Spaniards at Siboney and Daquiri, the outcome of the Cuban campaign might have been very different.

After five days of back breaking labor, all supplies were unloaded and the troops started inland for Santiago. As the troops pushed through the jungle, hidden snipers took a bloody toll. The roads, little more than trails, offered every hindrance to movement of supplies and artillery, and a combination of the heavy wool uniforms and the humid heat laid many a soldier low before he even got started.

The road to Santiago, is crossed by a ridge called San Juan Hill. It was here instead, on the heights above the beaches that the Spanish had dug in, and were prepared to fight.

Contrary to popular opinion, there was no hell-for-leather charge up San Juan Hill, either by Roosevelt's Rough Riders, or any other Cavalry unit. It was an infantry type battle, with individuals and small units moving forward by rushes. Another error has crept into the popular accounts of this battle. The Cavalry did not



attack San Juan Hill, but another hill to the north called Kettle Hill, so named for a large sugar boiling Kettle that was its most prominent feature.

Richard Harding Davis, an eye witness to the battle describes the charge up both San Juan and Kettle Hills, as follows:

"I have seen many illustrations and pictures of the charge on these hills, but none of them seem to show it as I remember it. In the picture papers the men are running uphill swiftly and gallantly, in regular formation, rank after rank, with flags flying, their eyes aflame, and their hair streaming, their bayonets fixed, in long brilliant lines, an invincible, overpowering weight of numbers. Instead of which I think the thing that impressed one of the most, when our men started from cover, was that they were so few. It seemed as if some one had made an awful and terrible mistake. One's instinct was to call to them to come back."

Dismounted, troops of the 6th Cavalry held the left flank of the Cavalry Brigade, and attacked with troops on either side of them. Casualties were relatively light going up the slope as most of the Spanish bullets went over the heads of the attacking troops. The blue line crept steadily up and on and then, near the top, the fragments gathered together in a sudden burst of speed, and forced the Spanish to retreat.

The next two days however were precarious ones for the American forces atop the hills overlooking Santiago. Supply of ammunition and reinforcements was at best spotty, and a determined attack by the Spanish forces probably would have dislodged the Americans. But although the Spaniards kept up a heavy fire inflicting many casualties, there was no attempt to retake the hills, nor did the American forces dare to attack the Spanish.

Finally on the morning of 3 July 1898 General Shafter commanding the American Forces sent a message to the Spanish demanding their surrender. Negotiations dragged on for two more weeks with sporadic firing on both sides but the Spanish finally did surrender on 17 July 1898.

The final act of the 6th Cavalry in "This Splendid Little War", as it was called by one of the military attaches, was the honor of having the 6th Cavalry Band play the National Anthem, as the Stars and Stripes replaced the Spanish emblem on the palace in Santiago de Cuba.

The worst part of the campaign was still to come. More deadly than all the Spanish bullets, were the disease germs of, typhoid, yellow fever, and dysentary. By the end of July, more than half of all the American troops were ill, many had died, and it took all the time of the well soldiers to care for the sick.

"The Army must be moved at once", was the word that went from Army Headquarters in Cuba to Washington. For once the War Department was shaken from its lethargy, and homeward movement was begun almost at once. The Cavalry Brigade was the first unit to be shipped home.

It was a mighty short war, and certainly the shortest the 6th Cavalry had ever participated, or was to participate in. Honors were few, only the battle streamer embroidered Santiago, was added to the growing number adorning the regiment's Standard. There is no record of

outstanding feats of heroism, either individually or on the part of small units. The regiment was commanded during the entire campaign by Colonel Sumner.

After arrival back in the United States, the 6th was stationed for a few weeks at Camp A. G. Forse, Alabama, and was then shipped to Fort Riley, Kansas, where for a brief time they enjoyed the relaxed pace of peacetime soldiering. Stationed for the most part in the mid-west, the regiment was busy learning new drill regulations, new weapons and tactics, and training recruits. But for the 6th, a well tested outfit there were more battles in store.

New trouble broke out in the Philippines early in 1899, when the Philippine Insurgents, who had been fighting the Spaniards, turned upon the American Troops, when it became evident that they were there to stay.

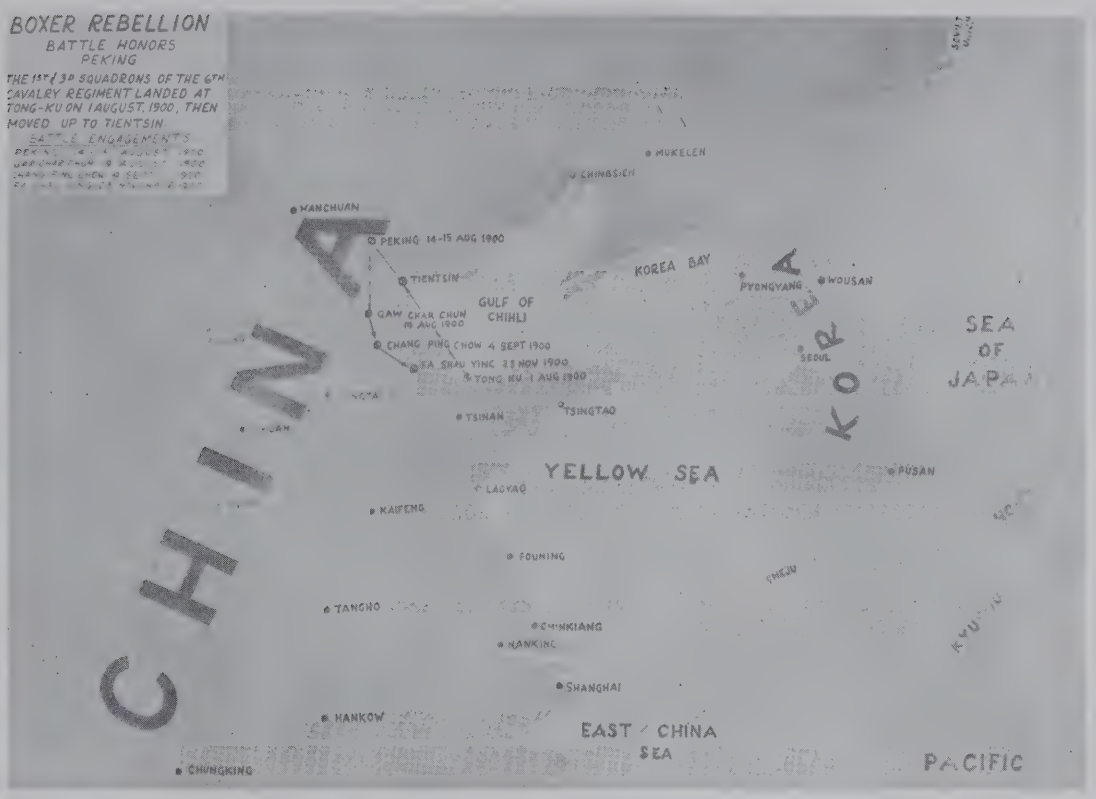
Major General (Fighting Joe) Wheeler, who had commanded the Cavalry Brigade during the Spanish American War, was sent to the Philippines to command a brigade of Infantry. Shortly after his arrival, he asked the War Department for Cavalry, which would be more suitable in fighting the type of warfare adopted by the Insurgents.

As a result of General Wheeler's request, and with the usual slowness that characterized troop movements in those days, several units of Cavalry were sent to the Philippines, the first of these, the 4th Cavalry arriving in the Autumn of 1899. Also sent to the Islands was the 2nd Squadron of the 6th Cavalry, arriving in the Philippines late in 1900.

While the 2nd Squadron was enroute to the Philippines, the 3rd Squadron sailed for China and the Boxer Rebellion. Why the regiment didn't go either to the Philippines, or China as a whole is not quite clear, but the possibility is, that work being performed by elements of the regiment in the National Park system, is the principal reason. A discussion of the assignment of the 6th Cavalry to the National Park system, and the work performed there will be discussed at a later time.

The Boxer Rebellion got its name from the anti-foreigner societies which sprang up all over China, the strongest of these known as "The Righteous Fists of Harmony", and "The Righteous Fists of Union." These mouth filling terms were soon shortened to "Boxers", hence the name "Boxer Rebellion".

Arriving in China in October of 1900, the 3rd Squadron of the 6th, had their first engagement with the Chinese Forces at Chang Ping Chow. Troop L was the only troop engaged, in what has been described as a very minor skirmish with Chinese irregulars. The unit suffered no casualties, although about twenty five Chinese were killed.



This was the first time the United States had co-operated with allies since the Revolutionary War of 1775-1783. The American Command was under General Adna R. Chaffee, a Cavalryman since the Civil War, and at one time a member of the 6th Cavalry.

An amusing item appears in the pages of the Cavalry Journal for that period of time, pertaining to the looting permitted by most of our allies during the Boxer Rebellion. Lt Rhodes of the 6th Cavalry, had a splendid mount, much coveted by the Chief of Staff of the Japanese Force. After much persuasion, and the offer of a fantastic sum of money, Lt Rhodes agreed to sell the horse. Payment was instantaneous, but it was made with silver bullion, that had been looted the day before by the Japanese. History does not record whether Lt. Rhodes was permitted to keep the silver, but the chances are he was not.

In the storming of the City of Peking, the 6th Cavalry, 9th and 14th Infantry assaulted the walls and threw back the Chinese. These troops drove the Boxers southward in the city and relieved the American Garrison and dependents that afternoon.

This is one action of which there is proof. The historical section of the 6th Cavalry has about 20 feet of moving picture film, taken by the Bio-Graph company on paper film, and later transferred to celluloid, of the action in front of one of the gates. This is the earliest known moving pictures of the 6th Cavalry.

The last action of the Boxer Rebellion, in which the 6th Cavalry was active took place at Fa Shau Ying, on the 23rd of November 1900, where Troop M attacked the stronghold of the Chinese Robber Chief Li, killing eight of his men and completely destroying his stronghold. Not a great deal of action and not much of a war, but the War Department determined that the regiment had qualified for the campaign streamer, China Relief Expedition.

Early in 1901, the units of the 6th who had been in China were transferred to the Philippines, and once again the regiment was together.

The war against the Insurrectos ended with the capture of the Insurgent leader Aguinaldo, in March of 1901. In the final action against this wily leader the 6th Cavalry played little if any part.

No sooner had the Christian Philippine Insurgents been captured, than the Moslem Moros of the Southern Islands rebelled. The Moros were hostile to all Christians, and had fought for years against the Spanish and the Philippinos. It has been said they delayed rebellion against the Americans because they did not recognize them as Christians, or at least the kind of Christians they knew.

Troop L, near the Avenue of Statues, Ming Tombs, China during the Boxer Rebellion, 1900.

A portion of Troop M, near the Great Wall of China, during the Boxer Rebellion, 1900.

There was some hard fighting in this local war, because the Moros were fanatical and dangerous warriors. They cared nothing about being killed themselves, as long as they could take a Christian or two along with them. No major battles as such developed, but the regiment managed to get into what fighting there was. The somewhat sparse records of the day mention almost casually, minor engagements at such places as, Taal, Batangas, Balabeg, Laguna and others. For the most part troopers of the 6th fought dismounted battling not only the Moros, but heat and humidity as well. Casualties throughout this campaign were light.

Late in 1903 the regiment was brought home from the Philippines, and stationed for the most part in Fort Meade, South Dakota for the next four years. It was during this period, that the 6th acted as truant officers to the Ute Indians, mentioned earlier. More and more it became apparent that "The Fighting Sixth", should also be called "the traveling sixth", for after less than four years in the United States, the regiment was once again sent back to the Philippines to cope with new Moro troubles.

During this tour, the regiment met, and defeated the Moro outlaw, Jikiri. The major engagement of the campaign being fought on the Island of Patian, near Jolo-Jolo from 2 to 4 July 1909. In the fighting the regiment suffered sixteen casualties, and the outlaw leader was killed.

For the first time in the regiment's history, official records give us some insight into the details of the fighting. There were four Medals of Honor awarded to men of the 6th, and by this time Congress had tightened the regulations governing this award. Instead of merely acting on the recommendation of the immediate commander, a narrative description of the action was necessary, naming personnel involved, and detailing the actual event.

Of the four medals that were awarded, one that exemplifys the type of fighting the troops were engaged in, was awarded to Lt Archie Miller, Commanding Officer of M Troop. The citation reads, "While in action against hostile Moros, when the machine gun detachment, having been driven from its position by a heavy fire, one member being killed, did with the assistance of an enlisted man, place the machine gun in advance of its former position at a distance of about twenty yards from the enemy, in accomplishing which he was obliged to splice a piece of timber to one leg of the machine gun tripod, all the while being under heavy fire, and the gun tripod being struck several times by bullets."

Shortly after the events pictured above, the Moros retreated to a cave, where they were well protected from fire. Lt John T. Kennedy, and several enlisted men volunteered to enter the cave, and force the Moros to surrender. Given permission to attempt this hazardous feat, they boldly advanced, under a heavy covering fire, and succeeding in routing the Moros. All of the men were wounded, Lt Kennedy severely, but their mission was successful. While attempting to evade capture, Jikiri was killed, and his band completely destroyed.

This action on Patian Island brought to a close the participation of the 6th Cavalry in the Philippine troubles. They remained in the Islands almost another year, and were once again ordered to the United States, and routine garrison life.

It is necessary now to go back a few years, and recount the story of the 6th Cavalry, and their aid to the National Park System. Rther than to fit the pieces into the narrative, the story is told as a whole, because the regiment as a unit was not assigned to this duty. Elements of the regiment, worked with the National Park System at intervals, from 1894 to 1911.

The first assignment to this type of duty took place in 1894, in Yellowstone National Park. D Troop was brought into the park to prevent destruction of natural phenomena, and protect the wildlife in the park. The troops did a splendid job, and not without some danger. The story is told of a soldier from D Troop, who left Riverside, for the Lower Basin to get the mail. His Platoon Sergeant, went with him for a distance of five or six miles, almost half of the total journey. The soldier never completed his journey. His remains were found a year and a half later, with a large knife still sticking into his rib cage, ten miles away from his normal route. It is believed that he was attacked and killed by poachers in the park, although his murderers were never brought to justice.

On the 3rd of June 1900, Major L. H. Rucker arrived in Yosemite National Park, California, ordered to patrol the park and prevent trespassing. However, a few hours after his arrival telegraphic instructions were received from the Department of California Commander, to keep the troops concentrated in anticipation of being sent to the Philippines. On the 17th of July these instructions were rescinded, and the command sent on its first patrol. The greatest trouble was keeping sheepherders out of the park, to prevent destruction of covering grass, and eventual erosion. During the first month that the troops operated, one flock of about 4,000 sheep were found being cared for by several herders. The herders were brought to Headquarters and ordered to take themselves and their sheep out of the park within twenty four hours or face jail terms.

In Sequoia and General Grant National Parks, also in California, the task was protecting the giant redwoods from the woods-man's axe, and prevent hunting. Troop G, under the command of Captain Frank West, arrived in Sequoia on 6 June, 1900. Like Major Rucker he was under instructions to keep the troops in one place. On 4 July he was notified that this was no longer necessary, and detachments were sent to camp at the main entrance, and other portions of the reservation, to prevent trespassing and depredation. The whole of the park boundry was finally patrolled by the soldiers.

Work of constructing a fence and trail around Sequoia Park was conducted under the supervision of Captain Cole. When the troops left the park, a wire fence had been put in place completely around the park, and over 15,000 feet of top rail had been supplied in the most important sections of the fence.

The picture shown below is the only picture known to exist of this phase of the 6th's history. It is a picture of Troop F taken in Yosemite National Park sometime in 1900. It is believed the Troop Commander is Captain E. F. Wiscox, but who the lady is in the upper right of the photo is not known. The original hangs in the museum at Yosemite, but its history has been lost.

to the field for testing was a cumbersome thing as compared to the radios we have today. In spite of archaic construction, results were obtained under ideal conditions up to thirty miles, and it could be relied on up to ten miles. The complete installation was carried in four chests, weighing about seventy pounds each, and could be transported in a wagon, or on three pack mules or horses. Although crude by modern day standards, it was a great step forward, and an improvement over the heliograph, which had been the standard means of signaling for years. For the first time the regimental commander had control over his squadrons, after they had been dispatched on a mission.

Troops in Yosemite Park

The last record we have of the 6th Cavalry being engaged in this type work is in 1911. Apparently just after returning from the Philippine Islands late in 1909, at least one troop was sent to Yosemite and remained there until 1911. The unit was under the command of Major William T. Forsythe, so the probability is that it was a squadron rather than a troop.

The years 1910 through 1916 were without a great deal of incident insofar as the 6th Cavalry was concerned. Engaged in normal peacetime activities, one interesting sidelight does occur.

Shortly after the regiment's return from the Philippines, they were introduced to portable wireless. The set, sent

As usual the 6th Cavalry operated from many command posts during these years. The home station from 1910 to 1913 was Fort Des Moines, Iowa, and from 1914 to 1916, Texas City, Texas.

These were important years to the United States Army as a whole. For the first time in our history we were trying to build a National Army, to preclude the chaos that had been so evident during the Spanish American War.

To concentrate one so called "maneuver division" during 1911-1913 along the Rio Grande, absorbed practically all avaliable Regular and National Guard Troops. When the border flared in 1914, resulting in the Vera Cruz Ex-

pedition under General Funston, and two years later, following Pancho Villa's raid on Columbus, New Mexico, General Pershing's punitive expedition into Mexico, the military power of the United States was shown to be so pitiably small that Congress immediately took action.

During General Pershing's expedition into Mexico the 6th Cavalry played only a small part. Elements of the regiment accompanied the expedition into Mexico although the regiment as a whole did not. Several officers from the 6th Cavalry, served as staff officers to General Pershing's headquarters, most notable among them being 1st Lt Kenyon R. Joyce, who rose to the rank of Major General just before World War II. Lt Joyce was to have as his Chief of staff, in 1939, Lt Colonel Eisenhower, later to become President of the United States, and as his aide, Captain Willard Wyman, retired in 1958 as Commanding General of CONARC. General Joyce died in San Francisco in February 1960.

Because only a small portion of the regiment accompanied the expedition, we did not qualify for a campaign streamer for this action.

The punitive expedition actually was a blessing to the United States, although few have ever regarded Pancho Villa as a benefactor. But, his crossing of our border, had given our President an excuse for training a large portion of our regular army, and about 150,000 National Guard Troops on the Mexican Border. There had been much speculation, as to what might have happened in World War I, had not Pancho Villa done us this "favor".

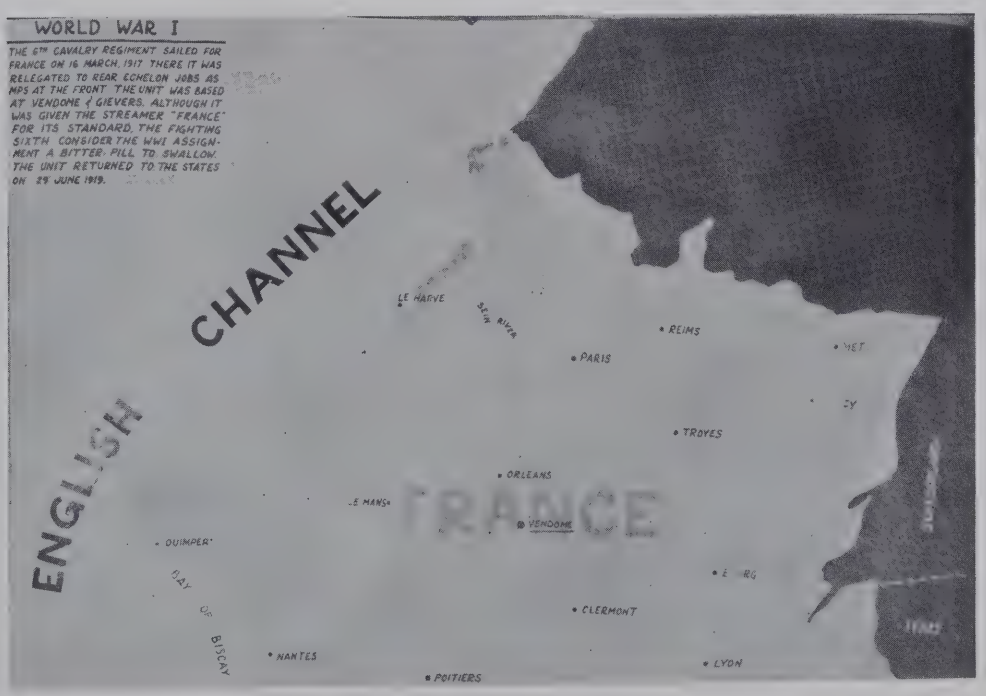
In spite of the border incident and the training that resulted, when war was declared against Germany, 6 April 1917, our forces were nowhere near adequate. The army had no large tactical units, few modern weapons, and only a relative handful of trained experienced officers.

Fortunately for the United States, two men of great stature emerged at this trying period, General Peyton C. March, Chief of Staff, the Planner, and General John J. Pershing, the Leader, and Field Commander of the American Expeditionary Forces, at one time a member of the regiment.

The 6th Cavalry meanwhile, like most of the Cavalry Regiments of the army were still stationed on the border, guarding against further trouble from Mexico. In 1917, they were stationed at Fort Sam Houston, undergoing constant training and taking their turn as Border Guards. In December of that year, the regiment had the somewhat dubious distinction of being selected as the escort and gallows guard, for the hanging of thirteen Negro soldiers. The condemned men, convited of murder, mutiny and inciting to riot were held the night before their execution, in a 6th Cavalry barrack and the next morning escorted to the gallows by mounted troopers of the 6th and hanged.

Early in 1918, the regiment moved to Camp Merritt, New Jersey, sailing for France aboard the USS Adriatic, on the 16th of March.

When the 6th, one of the fightingest units in the United States Army arrived in France there was a bitter pill to swallow. Instead of being assigned to a battle position, they were stationed at Gievres and Vendome, France, assigned to remount duty.


WORLD WAR I
THE 6TH CAVALRY REGIMENT SAILED FOR FRANCE ON 16 MARCH 1917 THERE IT WAS RELEGATED TO REAR ECHELON JOBS AS MPS AT THE FRONT THE UNIT WAS BASED AT VENDOME & GIEVERS. ALTHOUGH IT WAS GIVEN THE STREAMER "FRANCE" FOR ITS STANDARD, THE FIGHTING SIXTH CONSIDER THE WWI ASSIGNMENT A BITTER PILL TO SWALLOW. THE UNIT RETURNED TO THE STATES ON 29 JUNE 1919.
CHANNEL
ENGLISH
LE HAVRE
SEINE RIVER
REIMS
PARIS
TROYES
ORLEANS
LE MANS
VENDOME
FRANCE
QUIMPER
BAY OF BISCAY
NANTES
POITIERS
CLERMONT
LYON

There was good reason for this and although the service performed by the regiment in World War I was not glamorous, it was very necessary. Probably the best evidence of this is found in a letter published by General Pershing, himself a Cavalryman, and for many years a member of the 6th Cavalry. This letter published after his return from France in 1920, says in part:

*** "Generally speaking, the character of the World War (WW I) afforded little opportunity for the employment of Cavalry compared to the opportunities given to other arms * * * Due to the lack of (shipping) tonnage, we had little Cavalry in France. Only a few regiments formed part of the AEF, and they were necessarily engaged chiefly in remount duty."

So there it was, the contribution of the 6th Cavalry to victory in World War I, consisted of preparing horses for the service. Lest it be thought this was not an important duty, it must be remembered that almost everything in the army moved by horseflesh. Artillery was horse drawn, regimental trains were horse drawn, officers above the grade of Captain were mounted, and although motorcycles were gradually replacing them, many messengers were mounted and remained so throughout the war. The tonnage available to the United States for shipping necessary supplies to France was very limited, and as horses took up a great deal of space, not very many were shipped from the United States. Most horses used during the war were purchased from either the French or British.

It is hard in this modern day to visualize the problems inherent in supplying horses to the using arms and services. Most of the animals purchased in France were unshod, unbroken, and not used to the army way of doing things. So the 6th assigned this duty, rolled up their sleeves, took a fresh chew of tobacco, and went to work turning out the best remounts possible. For this detail in "Sunny France", the regiment acquired the campaign streamer for France.

The regiment remained in France until early 1919, at which time they were returned to the United States and stationed at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia. This was the beginning of what was to be the regiment's longest stay in one place, almost twenty three years.

The work at Fort Oglethorpe, immediately after the arrival of the regiment was tedious and boring. During the war just concluded, many buildings and camp areas had sprung up around Fort Oglethorpe, mostly in Chickamauga Park adjoining the Fort. The 6th fell heir to the job of guarding these buildings until they could be sold. A second task was guarding the War Prison Barracks at the Fort where about 150 enemy aliens were still interned. The guard duty on the buildings continued until April of 1920 when they were sold to a civilian firm and the army relinquished control.

It was at this time that the first rumblings were heard about the obsolesence of Cavalry. Colonel R. J. Fleming, who was to command the 6th Cavalry in 1922, wrote an article which stated in part * * * "It may safely be said that in actual warfare, the opportunity for mounted combat as compared to dismounted will be less than one to three * * * When a half baked raw recruit can, with a modern machine gun, spray bullets like water from a hose, it is time for the waving plume and rattling sabre to disappear."

Overseas the French were already experimenting with Armored Cars as an adjunct to their Cavalry. Major George Patton, who was to become one of the greatest armored leaders in the world, was beginning to advocate the use of light cars and motorcycles to speed up communications, although he could not at that time visualize vehicles as replacements for horses.

Gradually emerging from war status, the 6th started the transition from a hard riding, field hardened regiment, to garrison troopers. There were frequent maneuvers, and every summer various troops of the regiment moved out to other camps to supervise and assist in summer training Civilian Military Training Corps (CMTC) and reserve units.

During the spring and autumn there was plenty of time for athletics, dances, and parties. Polo was played by both officers and enlisted men, and at one time the regiment boasted that it was the only regiment in the United States Army, where every assigned officer was an active polo player. The game was not without its hazards; in November of 1920, Captain John Steele, Regimental Adjutant, was killed in an accident while playing on the parade ground. A new field built some two years later was named in his honor.

In 1921 (the order had been published in 1920) the Cavalry was sharply reduced to 950 officers, and 20,000 enlisted men. This meant that all Cavalry regiments were reduced from three to two squadrons, with the 3rd Squadron Headquarters being completely inactivated, and Troops I, K, and L inactivated or their designation changed. Troops D, H, and M were treated in a similar manner. Thus for the first time since activation in 1861, the regiment was suddenly decimated by act of Congress, and not by enemy action.

All troops of the 3rd Squadron, except the Squadron Headquarters which was deactivated completely, were re-

designated and became what today we would call school troops. One of the troops was assigned to duty at Camp Knox.

Although reduced in strength, the reduction had little effect on the normal life of the regiment. Life still went on very much as before.

On 3 March 1921, the coat of arms of the 6th Cavalry was approved by the War Department, and from that time on the crest was worn by all assigned personnel.

This coat of arms contains many symbols of the battles of the 6th down through their years of history. The shield is blue, representing the color of the Federal uniform during the Civil War. The Unicorn is the ancient and mythological beast from early times, symbolizing fighting spirit and mobility; in the rampant position, according to heraldry it is a sign of aggressiveness. It is odd perhaps that the horn resembles today's main armament of the 6th Armored Cavalry, the tank, however when this device was approved there were no tanks in Cavalry. The dragon represents the regiment's participation in the Boxer Rebellion, while the four arrows clutched in one claw, (covered with snakeskin, an Indian sign of war), represent four of the campaigns of the Indian Wars. The spiralled yellow and blue staff on which the dragon stands is for participation as Cavalry during the wars fought by the regiment, yellow and blue being Cavalry colors. Beneath the crest are found the latin words Ducit Amor Patriae, which means literally, Led By Love of Country, the regiment's motto.

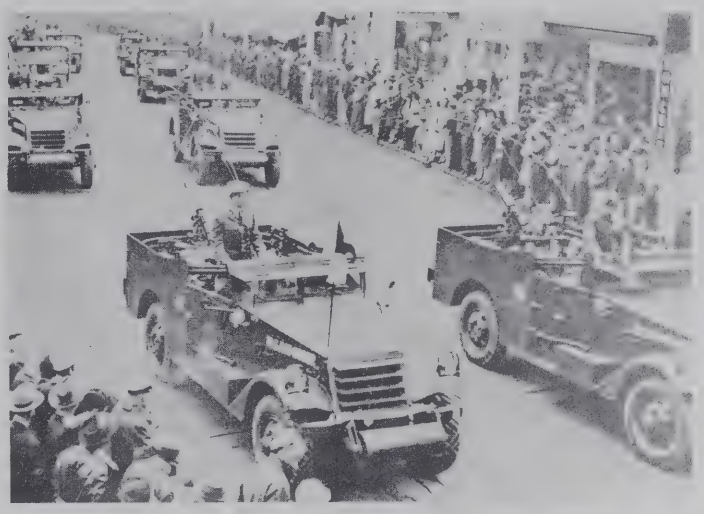
The years 1921 through 1928 can be skipped over quickly, one year very much like another. Peace time duties, enough spare time to indulge in a big athletic program, and to take part in social affairs, both at the Fort and in the nearby city of Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Any recounting of the history of the 6th Cavalry would be incomplete without a mention of the close ties that bound the regiment and the City of Chattanooga. That city took the 6th to its collective heart, and no civic affair was complete without the participation of "the soldiers."

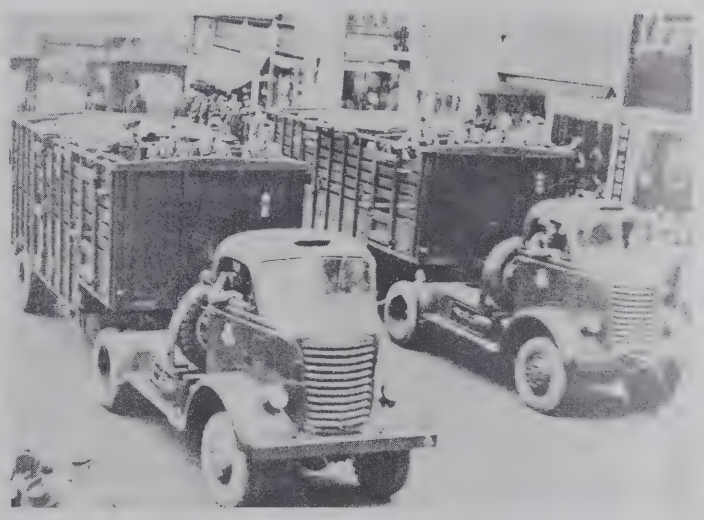
At the Chattanooga Interstate Fair, held annually, there was always a military day, combined with a horse show. During the years many of the troopers were awarded prizes and trophies for winning the various events open to them. Naturally many romances florished, so the 6th became even more welded to the city of Chattanooga by marriage and other affairs of the heart.

In turn the soldiers, officers and enlisted alike, invited the citizens to social and athletic events held at the post. Fox hunting became a popular sport with enlisted men and officers participating, accompanied by their civilian guests.

Adjoining Fort Oglethorpe was Chickamauga State Park, where the famous Civil War battle was fought. On the anniversary of this battle, the charge of the Confederate Cavalry up Snodgrass Hill was re-enacted annually, with troopers of the regiment acting as the Confederate Forces, and local ROTC Cadets representing Union Troops. On Armistice Day the regiment usually paraded in Chattanooga, after which a gala dance was held at the local fairgrounds.



The 6th Cavalry parades in Chattanooga during the 30's.



6th Cavalry in Armistice Day Parade probably in 1938. The trucks and portees used to transport horses and men as long as roads were available.

The Army's roof blew off, like most American roofs in the chill tornado of the great depression following 1929. Aside from personal losses for those individuals with outside incomes, and those who had been dabbling in the Stock Market, the administration forced upon the army a payless annual furlough which meant a net loss of eight and a third percent of the yearly income. In 1933, the administration went even further; a straight fifteen percent cut in Federal salary, and a freeze of all longevity pay increases. In spite of the cut, many a soldier was helping less fortunate relatives and in-laws, small as it was at least the soldiers' income was steady and he could eat three meals a day.

In the face of the many financial problems, General Douglas MacArthur, then Chief of Staff, was engaged in continuous efforts at modernization within the army. The clank of tank treads was replacing the clip-clop of hooves. Most important, the framework of a National Mass Army had been set up. The skeleton was complete in command and staff. For the first time in history the United States had a mobilization plan for national emergency.

Just at this time, another new problem was dropped in the lap of the army; The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). This hurriedly conceived plan had been given to the army as the only organized department of the government capable of handling it, actually it turned out to have a beneficial effect on practically the entire army. It was a job to be done and a tremendous challenge to personal leadership to be met. In handling this conglomeration of men from all walks of life, officers and enlisted men alike learned more about leadership than all the schools in the country could have taught them. This knowledge was to stand the country in good stead in 1940 and 1941.

In June of 1933, the 6th Cavalry left Fort Oglethorpe, to engage in combat firing exercises at Camp Jackson, South Carolina. After a two day march the regiment was recalled to Oglethorpe, and about half the officers and a small number of enlisted men sent on CCC duty. It was most interesting to hear some of the officers trying to explain to private soldiers why their pay was only seventeen dollars a month, while the CCC youngster was drawing thirty dollars, and was not subject to military discipline. Out of this CCC duty came many of the outstanding leaders of our army during World War II.

Colonel Gordon Johnston commanded the regiment in 1934. He was one of the highly decorated men in the army. Colonel Johnston had been awarded, the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Medal, the Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Purple Heart, and many foreign decorations. Many times Colonel Johnston made the statement, that of all commands he had held in the army, command of the 6th Cavalry was the high point in his career. Many senior officers before him and since have echoed that statement. Late in 1934 Colonel Johnston left the regiment to assume the duties of Chief of Staff at Fort Sam Houston. Shortly after his arrival at Fort Sam he was killed while playing polo.

During this same year, the first motor transport was received to replace the animal drawn transportation within the regiment. Ever increasing complaints about gradual replacement of the horse were heard, and many an after-hours barracks session on the subject wound up in violent disagreement, with the younger troopers advocating motor transport, and the older ones equally as sure nothing could replace the horse. In November a new scout car was received for testing. This was not designed to replace the horse, but to be used on roads and in open terrain as a reconnaissance vehicle. The horse was still supreme in rough country.

The years 1934 through 1939 saw many major changes take place within the Cavalry. The 6th United States Cavalry, became in 1939, the 6th Horse-Mechanized-Corps Reconnaissance Regiment, a mouth filling term, but one which combined the advantages of both motor transport and mounted troopers. A squad of eight men and horses, with forage rations and complete equipment, could be loaded onto a truck and its trailer in from five to eight minutes. The idea was for these units to use fast motor transport where roads were available, and then for the troopers to unload their horses, mount and scout the country when the going got too rough for trucks.

The storm clouds rolling up broke in September of 1939, when the Nazi invasion of Poland began to put the lights out in Europe. The Americans watched a tragedy of terror unfold, the Blitzkreig. Curiously enough these tactics were not new. Any student of history can see the similarity between the lightning attacks of General J.E.B. Stuart of the Confederacy, and General Phil Sheridan of the Union Forces, and the thrust of Nazi Armored columns deep into Eastern Europe. The tactics were the same, only the mounts were different, armor had definitely replaced the horse.

From the time of its new organization in 1939, until late in 1941, the regiment trained and maneuvered. It was found that the horse-mechanized squadron simply couldn't keep up with our new vehicular army. This, combined with the blitzkrieg tactics of General Patton's 2nd Armored Division in the three month long 1941 maneuvers spelled the doom of the horse cavalry as Corps Reconnaissance.

Picket line of the 6th United States Cavalry during the Tennessee Maneuvers, in 1939.

Troopers of the 6th United States Horse-Mechanized Corps Reconnaissance Regiment, loading horses on their "portees", during the Louisiana Maneuvers in 1941.

The 7th of December, "the day that will live in infamy", found the 6th Cavalry still stationed at Fort Oglethorpe. On the night of the 7th of December the entire regiment moved out piecemeal to guard vital public installations in the states of Georgia and Tennessee, remaining on the monotonous assignment until January of 1942.

On the 16th of February 1942, the regiment was transferred to Camp Blanding, Florida, for re-equipping, leaving behind it the last vestiges of horse cavalry.

In these hectic months immediately following Pearl Harbor, and the confusion of being transferred from a post that had been home for twenty three years, many valuable historical momentos, trophies, and unit histories were lost. Many of the Regimental trophies were stored in Chattanooga Public Library, in charge of the mayor of the city, Ed Bass, and most of these have been returned to the regiment. (As this manuscript is being prepared for the press, word has been received from the city of Chattanooga that Mayor Bass has passed away. The regiment extends its sincere sympathy). In the case of troop trophies, it is apparent that many troop commanders acted independently, and stored them wherever the individual thought they might be safe. To this confusion is attributed the loss of many documents that could if ever found, fill many gaps existing in the regiment's history.

Shortly after arrival at Camp Blanding, the regiment was again redesignated, this time as the 6th Corps Reconnaissance Regiment (Mechanized). This redesignation took place in June of 1942, and further complicated unit histories as troop lettering changed. The troops were redesigned as follows:

Troop A (Horse Portee) to Troop A (Reconnaissance)

Troop B (Horse Portee) to Troop E (Support)

Troop C (Horse Portee) to Troop F (Support)

Troop E (Mechanized) to Troop B (Reconnaissance)

Troop F (Mechanized) to Troop C (Reconnaissance)

Troop G (Mechanized) to Troop D (Reconnaissance)

Completely mechanized now, with the horse a thing of the past, troopers of the 6th had to learn a new art of warfare. The old smell of the stables was replaced by the sharper and more pungent odor of gasoline. As it must, the old was giving away to the new.

In November of 1942, the regiment was alerted for overseas duty. As they stood by, almost ready to move out, a German submarine lurking off the coast of New Jersey, sank the ship loaded with equipment consigned to the regiment. Because the equipment could not immediately be replaced, the 6th lost the opportunity to fight in the North African Campaign.

Training continued until September of 1943 when the required supplies were received. Advance elements of the regiment sailed from the Port of New York late in September and arrived in Greenoch, Scotland, from where they trans-shipped to Northern Ireland. The remainder of the regiment, aboard HMS Queen Elizabeth, arrived the following month.

Regimental headquarters was set up in Tandagaree Castle, in County Armagh, North Ireland. The castle, rebuilt from ruins in 1812, was a fine building for a headquarters, extensive and sprawling, it had many rooms and spacious grounds and easily accommodated the headquarters of the regiment. The name itself, Tandagaree, anciently called Tawantlee, means "back to the wind."

Training was immediately started to prepare for forthcoming operations on the European continent when the second front was opened. But it was not long before a complete reorganization was to take place, and a different mission assigned to the 6th Cavalry.

On the 15th of December 1943, a letter was received from Headquarters First United States Army, directing that the regiment be changed to a group, with two squadrons attached. The reorganization planning started immediately and plans were completed by 28 December. On 31 December 1943, the final parade of the 6th Cavalry

Regiment was held in an open pasture at the western edge of Tandagaree Garrison. Farewells were extended to those officers and men declared surplus by the reorganization, and a general announcement of forthcoming plans made by the Commanding Officer, Colonel Edward M. Fickett, to the assembled troops.

Once again for the fourth time in seven years the regiment was reorganized and redesignated. The 6th Cavalry Regiment, became the 6th Cavalry Group, and the troops redesignated as follows:

Troop A	to	Troop A, 6th Cav Rec Sq
Troop B	to	Troop B, 6th Cav Rec Sq
Troop C	to	Troop C, 6th Cav Rec Sq
Troop D	to	Troop B, 6th Cav Rec Sq
Troop E	to	Troop F, 6th Cav Rec Sq
Troop F	to	Troop F, 6th Cav Rec Sq

Troop H (Reconstituted) to Troop A, 28th Cav Rec Sq

Troop I (Reconstituted) to Troop C, 6th Cav Rec Sq

Troop K (Reconstituted) to Troop E, 28th Cav Rec Sq

Troop L (Reconstituted) to Troop E, 6th Cav Rec Sq

Regimental Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, Service Troop, Hq Section Med Det to Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 6th Cavalry Group (Mechanized)

1st Squadron Headquarters to Headquarters and Service Troop, 6th Cav Rec Sq

2nd Squadron Headquarters to Headquarters, Headquarters and Service Troop, 28th Cav Rec Sq

1st Squadron Medical Det to Med Det, 6th Cav Rec Sq

2nd Squadron Medical Det to Med Det, 28th Cav Rec Sq

This organization was to remain constant throughout the war, and as so constituted and named, the 6th Cavalry Group would do their share toward assuring victory in World War II.

During the remainder of their stay in North Ireland, the Group trained constantly to perfect their techniques in reconnaissance, taking part in many field exercises, and Command Post Exercises (CPX) problems. Each squadron conducted at least two field exercises during each month. Most emphasized was the employment of Assault Gun and Light Tank elements in support of Reconnaissance troops in execution of aggressive reconnaissance missions. In addition to field training each squadron held weekly loading exercises.

Finally in May of 1944, with the training well advanced, the 6th Cavalry Group moved to England, near Woodland Belt, and Frampton Court. After a few days of settling down training was resumed with emphasis being placed on qualification of all men with weapons. Toward the end of the month, word was received about a major change regarding the operational use of the Group in operations on the continent. The plan for this mission was given the code name "Unicorn".

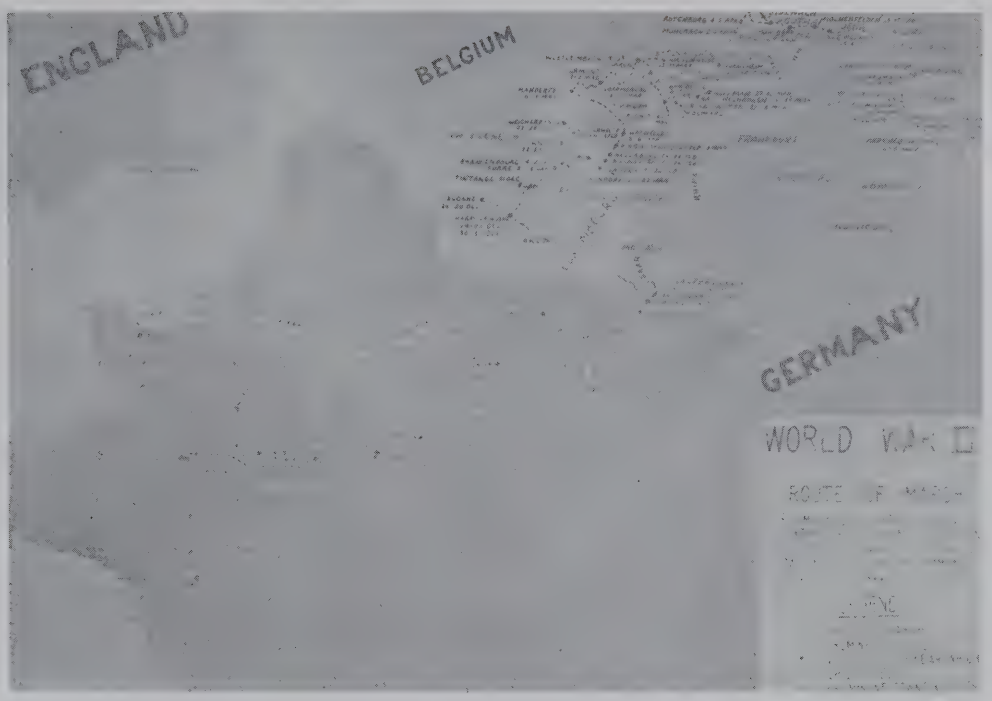
It was felt by General Patton, commander of the Third United States Army that a great deal of time as well as detail was wasted in the normal transmission of messages from front line companies back to Army Headquarters. So the 6th Cavalry Group had been selected to act as the eyes and ears of the headquarters, communicating directly by telephone, radio and in person with Army Headquarters and skipping the usual channels. Training in this new concept of the employment of the group was started at once, and new equipment needed was made available, as the Group worked around the clock to perfect themselves in this new technique. This training took up the entire month of June.

On the evening of the 30th of June 1944, the Group lost the commander who had been with the regiment since early in 1942. Colonel Edward M. Fickett was painfully injured in an automobile accident, when his car struck a British truck that had skidded across wet pavement. The Colonel was rushed to a hospital where it was learned that he was suffering from a broken kneecap, and would be lost to the regiment for about six weeks.

Command of the Group was taken over by Colonel W. W. Cornog, and his assumption of command marked the first time that the regiment had been commanded by other than a Cavalry Officer. Although Colonel Cornog was in command for only a few weeks, he was the officer responsible for moving the Group from England to France, on the 9th and 10th of July. Landing at Utah Beach, they moved inland to a transit concentration area in the vicinity of St Germain de Verville, where they remained for the night. On the 11th of July, the Group moved to the Third Army Concentration Area, where it settled down to a period of regrouping, refitting and general preparation for Plan Unicorn to become effective. While the Group was waiting, they were assigned the mission of protecting the Army Command Post, against ground attack, vertical envelopment, and aerial attack.

This relative inactivity continued until the 31st of July, when all commanders were assembled and issued final instructions for the execution of Plan Unicorn. The Third United States Army became operational on 1 August 1944, and the Group immediately started doing its assigned job of being the eyes and ears of the Army.

Much has been written both pro and con, as to the



effectiveness of Plan Unicorn, and whether it was a waste of manpower and equipment to utilize a highly trained group of men in this manner. Certainly it was effective, and added greatly to the immediate knowledge of the Army Commander, on front line activities during the early months of the invasion of Europe.

This type of activity was continued by the group through the month of October and part of November. About the middle of November, Colonel Fickett, (he had returned to command of the Group on 6 September) received instructions from the Commanding General Third Army, directing that the operation of Plan Unicorn, be delegated to that squadron then performing it, and that this mission be rotated each month between the two attached squadrons. The Group Headquarters with the squadron not occupied in performance of this mission, and additional units to be attached, was designated as Mobile Army Reserve. This freed the Group Commander from detailed responsibility for this mission, except of a supervisory nature and enabled him to devote his time to the planning, formation and special training of the reserve force.

On the morning of the 30th of November, Colonel Fickett received a message to report to Army Headquarters for instructions which proved to be the long awaited orders for the first combat mission of the Group as a unit.

Attached initially to XX Corps, the Group fought through the long cold month of December, assisting the breaching of the Siegfried Line, and the liberation of the towns of Carling and L'Hopital. The liberation of Carling marked the first time since 1940, that the town had been free of occupying Nazi Troops, and for their brief stay in the town, troopers of the 6th were civic heroes.

During the Battle of the Bulge, the 6th was used mainly to secure wide flanks, left gaping when the sudden German offensive created great openings in the American lines. During the latter stages of this battle, after the American position had become more or less secure, the 6th Cavalry Group, working under the supervision of VIII Corps, was assigned the task of rounding up or destroying elements of the 130th Panzer Division, known to be operating in scattered groups within the zone. This rapidly developed into a typical cavalry mission of reconnaissance in force and was eminently successful. The Group succeeded in capturing large elements from both the 130th Panzer Division, and the 5th Paratrooper Division, as well as destroying most of their supplies.

On the 8th of January 1945, the 6th Cavalry Group started the action which earned for it the Distinguished Unit Citation. Committed on the night of 8 January on a 5,000 yard front the Group was assigned the mission of aggressive patrolling to follow up any enemy attempts to escape or withdraw. When it became apparent on the morning of the 9th of January that the Germans had so organized the ground, that it would be impossible for the Infantry regiments to advance, the 6th Cavalry Group attacked on its own initiative, over and above the requirements of its own mission, and in furtherance of the Corps mission. The attack continued during the day and into the night despite bitter cold and snow, and was delayed only by mine fields and blown bridges in the vicinity of Beltrange. Speed plus the fighting spirit and aggressiveness of all personnel, made possible the cap-

Troopers of the 6th Cavalry Group "somewhere in Europe". Picture probably taken in the late winter of 1944-45.

ture of the towns of Lutremange, Watrange, and Tarchamps, and the zone assigned to the 6th Cavalry Group was quickly cleared. Having completed its mission, the Group Commander, requested and was granted permission to advance far beyond its original objective. The Group drove on and assisted in the capture of Sonlez. This outstanding action of the 6th Cavalry Group, broke the back of the German resistance in the Harlange Pocket, which had held up the Corps advance for eleven days.

The rest of the European campaign is quickly told. Once the Battle of the Bulge had been cleared it was a matter of push, push, push. Stopping briefly now and then to clean out isolated or by passed pockets of resistance, and to capture prisoners by the thousands. On the 26th of March, the Group received orders to cross the Rhine River, following the 87th, and 89th Divisions, and once across to effect a passage of the lines and advance into Germany. Once across the Rhine, enemy resistance crumpled quickly, and once more it was a matter of pushing toward the east. Litle organized resistance was met during the month of April, although there were sporadic clashes that took their toll of life and equipment.

Rolling continuously eastward until reaching the German city of Zwickau, the Group turned south along the Czechoslovakian border. It was here they ended the war. A field message signed by Colonel Edward M. Fickett, was received by all elements of the command, announcing the complete capitulation of all the German forces. The last shot fired in anger, by the the 6th Cavalry Group is reported to be from a .50 calibre machine gun on an armored car, by one of the members of C Troop, 6th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, who fired at an enemy soldier attempting to escape capture. It is not reported whether or not a hit was scored.

A short time after VE Dav, Lt Col Samuel McCGoodwin, at that time commanding the 6th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, published an order of the day which exemplifies all that the 6th Cavalry Group did during World War II. Colonel Goodwin had fought all the way with the 6th, and was later to command it.

HEADQUARTERS
SIXTH CAVALRY RECONNAISSANCE
SQUADRON (MECZ)
APO 403, US Army

GENERAL ORDERS: 20 June 1945
NUMBER :

1. For as long as each of us shall live we shall hear the unceasing praise of men and nations ringing in our ears—praise for the victory the armies of The United Nations have won, the tribute of civilization for the freedoms our force of arms has preserved in ancient Europe. This honor is the appreciation of the world to you, men of the 6th Cavalry Squadron.

2. You know, as I, that this acclaim was won in the blood of those whom we left on each battlefield. I shall ever remember with you . . . The concussion and crack of our guns trying to silence the German Reply at CARLING; . . . The miserable, cold, glowing, stinking silence of Christmas Night, 1944, at TINTANGE and BIGONVILLE; . . . The

ice-lined drift-filled foxholes in front of the little mill at BETLANGE; . . . The convergence of our tracers on German targets as we rolled across the snow into TARCHAMPS; . . . The deep drifts, steep pine forests, north and south of ESCHWEILER; . . . The appearance of those pill-boxes across the OUR RIVER and the way we eased across, covered by a mantle of fog at STOLZEMBOURG; . . . The "impregnable" SIEGFRIED LINE and our passage through it; . . . The barrages that fell on WAXWEILER as we fought in and out of the valley; and, damnit, the same thing again at LASEL; . . . The confusion of that night march to SPESSART; . . . The debacle at ANDERNACH; . . . The day we rolled across the RHEIN, the roadblocks enroute to ZOLHAUS, the dumbfounded Germans in the valley up to PANROD, the way we got to GIESSEN and LANG GONS; . . . How we got around WERDAU and later took the place; . . . The end run around ZWICKAU to cut the Autobahn; . . . Our three columns into ADORF, and the roads that disappeared where we stopped on the CZECHOSLOVAKIAN border on VE-Day.

3. Those rewards which come to me as your Squadron Commander are the praise of men and of the United States for what you have accomplished. The reward which is mine and mine alone is the honor of having served as Commander of the Sixth Cavalry Squadron. For each round you fired; each yard you progressed; for each patient minute on each outpost; for each bold second that you attacked; for each bolt, gear, and valve you kept running; for each word or signal you sent by electric impulse through the air; each mouthful of food you provided; each drop of gasoline you brought forward; each order and report you wrote for me; each paper you processed; each letter you typed—for these things I owe my everlasting appreciation. This I cannot express.

4. With reluctance and with a sentiment that I shall never again share with you. I leave my assignment as your Commander, and turn over my reigns to the qualified hands of those who helped me through our campaign across Europe. May the blessings of God, man, and history continue to smile upon you wherever time and the nation guides the future of the Sixth Cavalry Squadron — always, DUCIT AMOR PATRIAE.

Samuel McCGoodwin
Lt Col Cavalry
Commanding

On the 12th of May 1945 elements of the 87th Division relieved the 6th Cavalry Group, and they marched some sixty miles west to the city of Hildburghausen, where the Group started Occupation duties.

The basic instructions to all unit commanders was to secure the best available billets in the area assigned. Displaced persons or local German labor was secured to perform all details of billet and kitchen police. In each Troop area, a small hotel or club was selected as the center for troop billets, supplemented by houses as required. Large kitchens, and dining rooms complete with china and glassware, beer gardens with beverages, and any other available luxury that had been enjoyed by the German people was secured and used by the troops. Simultaneously every effort was made to place all equipment in full serviceable, combat condition. By the end of May all objectives were well on their way to completion. In some cases combat had seemed to be almost forgotten. The war was over — now to go home.

It was a confusing time in the European Theatre of Operations (ETO) for all soldiers during the months that followed. Redeployment of personnel and units was the order of the day. By October of 1945, most of the eligible men of the 6th had been returned to the United States. But the regiment itself was to remain in Germany for almost thirteen more years.

During the early stages of the occupation, the 6th Cavalry was stationed in the vicinity of Bayreuth, Germany. In April of 1946 word was received that the 6th Cavalry Group would soon be reorganized, and redesignated as the 6th Constabulary Regiment. One nostalgic note was the formation of a horse platoon, which was called for in the TO/E of a Constabulary Regiment. Headquarters and Headquarters Company was responsible for organizing and training this platoon, consisting of one officer and thirty two enlisted men. Most of the personnel making up this platoon were assigned directly to the 6th from Ft. Riley, Kansas where they had been trained in equitation and horse handling.

Constabulary Standard

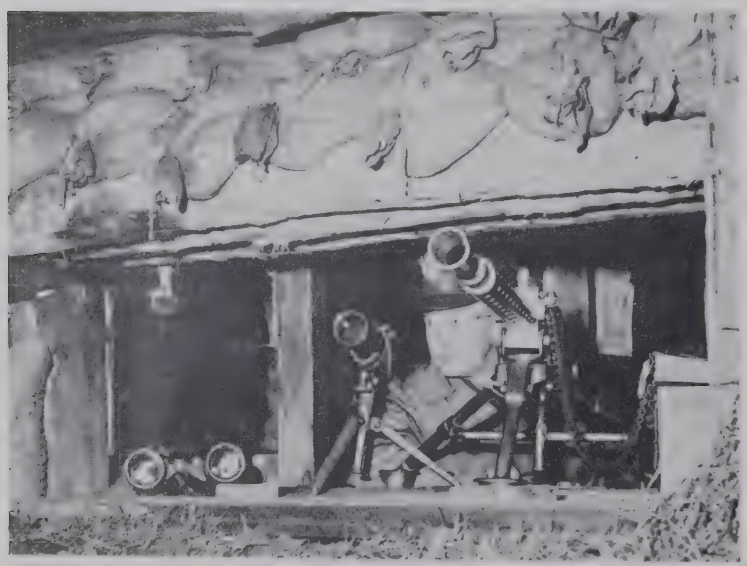
On 30 April 1946, the Regimental Standard once again had to be changed, when it was officially announced by Third Army General Orders # 74, that the 6th Cavalry Group had been redesignated the 6th Constabulary Regiment. Fortunately this time the troops retained their own

Trooper, Field Service Uniform

letter designation, only the name of the regiment being changed. In addition to the 6th and 28th Squadrons, the 53rd Squadron, and later the 13th were added to make up the complete regiment. All troops immediately started "on the job" training in preparation for taking up their assigned duties on 1 July.

One big thing happened around this time that was destined to change the life of most men in the 6th, dependents started to arrive in the theatre. To Mrs. Thompson, wife of Lt Clinton Thompson, of the 6th Squadron went the honor of being the first American dependent to arrive from the United States. She and Lt Thompson made their home in Erlangen where Lt Thompson was stationed. After Mrs. Thompson came many more, and the 6th settled down to their duties under a more home-like atmosphere.

In spite of heavy committments as occupation troops, the regiment still found time to undertake a strenous sport program, Baseball, football, track, boxing, all were entered by teams from "The Fighting Sixth", and our trophy case is good evidence of their success.



Outpost on Regan Border Camp, 1946. Lt. General Uncles, U.S. Army, inspects.

In June the regiment had a sample of what their duty was to be for the next ten or twelve years. D Troop of the 6th Squadron was sent to Ludwigstadt on the border between he Americans and the Russians. During the months that folloed the troops were rotated, and additional posts added so that all personnel could get some idea of their duties as a border patrol.

In contrast to the first rumblings of lack of unity between the Russians and the Americans, troopers of the 6th enjoyed very cordial relations with their Russian counterparts on the opposite side of the border. There was much "conversation", and exchange of trinkets and souveniers between soldiers of both nations, as well as cooperation in the duties to which both were assigned. In August the first permanent billets for work of this type were built at Neustadt, a town authorized as a border crossing point. On one side of the building was an aerial marker to keep American planes from straying into the Communist Zone.

German-American relations were improving all the time. As in all theatres of war, "the kids", were the GI's love. The great American game of baseball was the principal ice-breaker, and every troop or small detachments had their own version of little league baseball. The adoption of several orphanages and old peoples home by battalions of the 6th, as well as participation in civic activities also added to the growing friendship.

The 6th Constabulary added to their growing list of duties by being assigned to help combat two evils of post-war Germany. The black market and traffic violations.

Black market activities were indulged in by a minority group of American soldiers, but immediately attributed to everyone who wore the uniform of Uncle Sam. Aiding CID agents and reporting infractions of regulations resulted in many persons, Germans and Americans, being arrested for flagrant violation of the black market laws. In one raid troopers of the 6th arrested a German National posing as an American Major, a disguise he had successfully used for several months. To the credit of the 6th it may be said that during this period not one member was involved in serious black market activities.

Not quite so easy to cure was the most dangerous. Traffic accidents and fatalities were climbing at a fantastic rate.

In November of 1946 elements of the regiment were assigned to operate speed traps and road blocks for the purpose of apprehending offenders in the Coburg area. An indication of the excesses are shown by the record number of 650 traffic violations in one week alone. Of these 650 citations, 237 were tried by summary court on the spot, and 122 officers and senior noncommissioned officers, exempt from Summary Court jurisdiction were re-

ferred to their commanding officers, and 251 civilians turned over to military government courts. Positive action such as this soon reduced the number of accidents.

The regiment added its bit to the program by honoring safe drivers at a squadron review, and presenting them with safe drivers certificates, and a three day pass.

Meanwhile, border patrol duty was still the chief assignment of the trooper, although it was split up among the squadrons with only a small part of any one unit assigned at any one time. During 1947 the border patrols were averaging seven arrests a day of illegal border crossers. For the most part these illegal border crossers were merely attempting to visit friends or relatives and could not understand why they couldn't. After apprehension they were turned over to CIC agents for further questioning.

On the social side of the ledger, new NCO, enlisted and officer clubs were being established, and the Army Exchange Service had just announced the sale of hundreds of surplus jeeps, available to personnel stationed in the European Theatre of Operations. These jeeps, completely reconditioned before sale, sold for $425.00. Because of the demand it was necessary to hold raffles to establish a priority for sale.

In April of 1947 the regiment took part in a theatre-wide AWOL round-up. Roadblocks were set up and every officer, soldier or civilian passing the road block was required to show identity, and his reason for being where he was. This round-up netted over 250 AWOL soldiers, as well as several civilians posing as officers of enlisted members of the Armed Forces for one reason or another.

During 1946 and 1947 the 6th had published a newspaper called "The Unicorn". This splendid newspaper was enjoyed not only by the 6th Constabulary troopers but by other soldiers stationed in the area as well. When the regiment moved to Bamberg in April of 1947, the Unicorn was selected as the newspaper of the Bamberg area. Army orders had decreed that only one major newspaper could be printed in any sub-post area. It was indicative of the excellence of the paper that the Unicorn was chosen for this honor. Publication was continued until 22 August 1947, when the regiment was transferred to Straubing.

This was a permanent change of station and the units were based on Regensburg Military Post for supply and evacuation. At about the same time the Cavalry Squadrons that had been attached were now assigned. This was merely a prelude to another major change in the TO/E of the 6th.

On 20 December 1948, the 6th Constabulary Regiment was redesignated the 6th Armored Cavalry (US Constabulary), and Headquarters and Headquarters Troop became, Headquarters and Headquarters Company. Service Company was reactivated, "troops" became companies, and "squadrons", became battalions. Constituted at this same time was Headquarters Company 3rd Battalion, and Assault Gun Companies of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions.

Another period of organization and transfer started with the year 1949, in the transition from a Constabulary Regiment to an Armored Cavalry Regiment. Vast amounts of equipment had to be turned in as excess, new equipment had to drawn, and all with personnel not experienced in the maintenance and repair of tanks and their guns. The re-equipping was finished for the most part by mid-April, however some shortages continued to exist for almost a year.

Until November of 1951, the regiment operated tactically under the control of the 2nd Constabulary Brigade. After the arrival of VII Corps from the United States, the 2nd Brigade phased out, and the regiment was assigned directly to VII Corps.

Fitness for potential combat, with emphasis on physical conditioning was the keynote in 1951 in the 6th Armored Cavalry. Taking heed of lessons from the Korean conflict, word sounded early at Straubing, Regensburg, and Landshut that muscular toughness, stamina, and physical endurance were essential to success in combat. And while the activities of the regiment were many and varied, the one fact never forgotten by officers and men alike, was that they were proud member of "The Fighting Sixth", and that their mission in Germany might call upon them to fight at any time.

Of course there was more to training than physical conditioning. Starting late in January 1951 with "Exercise Winterspiel", elements of the 6th were involved in some sort of an operation almost continuously.

General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower listens to Lt. Col Watson, CO 2nd Bn explain a point at the field mess during Operation Counter-thrust, Jan 51, in British Zone of Germany. Others in the picture are allied officers.

Gen. of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower, with men of How Co, 2nd Bn, during Operation Counter-thrust, Jan 51, British Zone of Germany, Lt. Col. Ernest G. Watson, CO 2nd Bn. 6th A/C is on the far right.

High spot of the year for the 2nd Battalion, came in September 1951, when troops of seven Atlantic Pact Nations joined forces in "Operation Counterthrust". The 2nd Battalion playing the role of aggressors, were integrated into British forces under Major General Coad, of the British Army. Conduct of the battalion in this operation brought praise from General of the Army, Eisenhower. In a letter to the Battalion Commander, General Eisenhower wrote . . . "from what I saw of your Battalion, I would judge your men are in an excellent state of morale and training. Please extend to them my congratulations for their fine work, and my best wishes . . . "

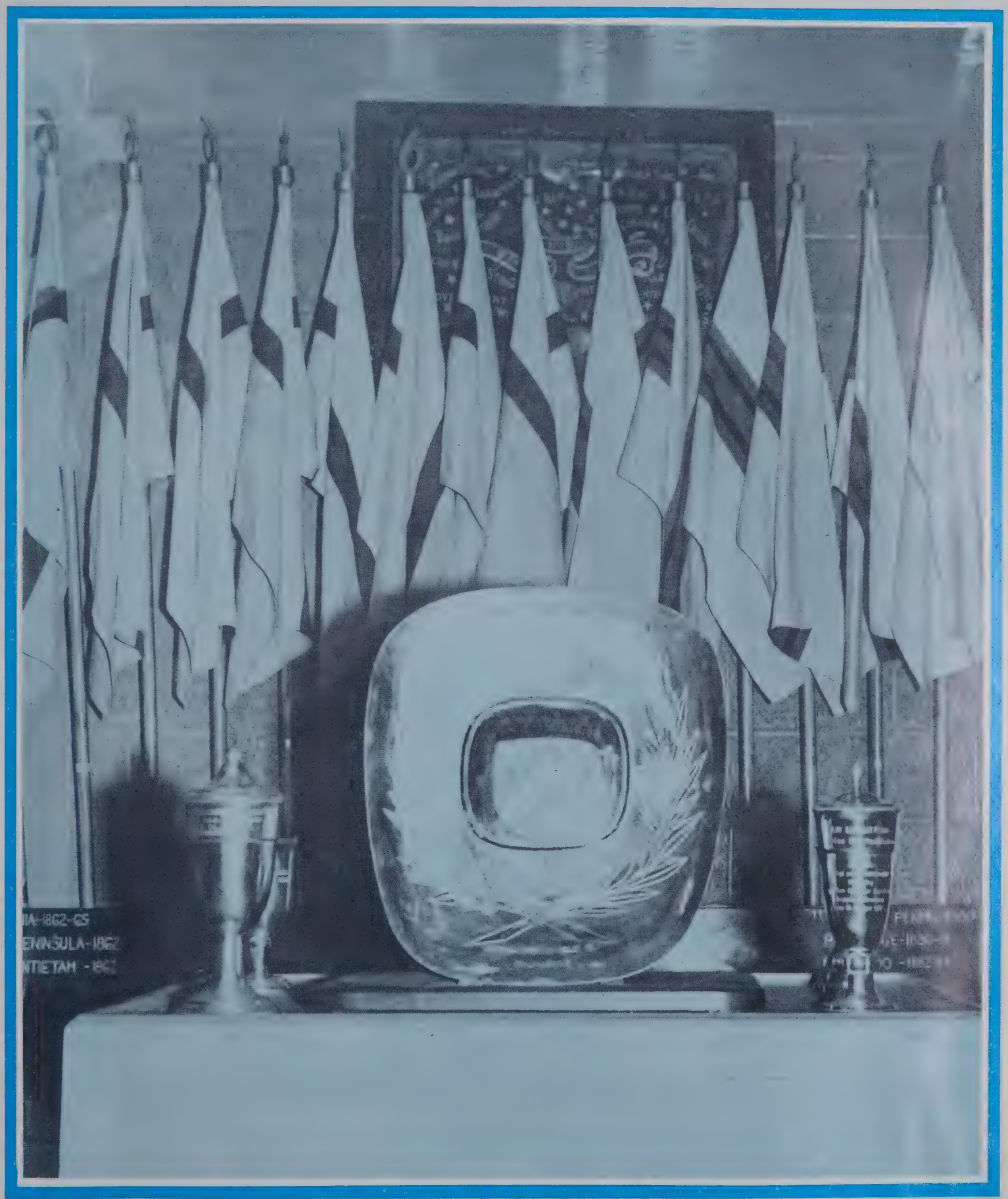
Late in 1951 there was a definite change in the mission of all American troops in Europe. The 6th stood firmly with all other elements of the Armed Forces, as a bulwark against the active spread of Communism into the free world. The term "Occupation Troops", went out of style.

Anticipating early treaty agreements with the Bonn Government, the building of friendly German-American relations was stressed. Each trooper was urged to become an ambassador of good will. All personnel of the regiment, loyally supported by the ladies of the regiment, took an increased interest in these activities. During the Christmas season of 1951, troopers and their wives of at Regensburg, Landshut, and Straubing played hosts to hundreds of underpriveleged German children, with special emphasis being placed on bringing help to the orphaned and the needy.

Americans and Germans were becoming good friends. The post-war occupation was ended. But while the troopers of the 6th took their new mission in stride and saw most Germans through friendly eyes, they remained fighting troops both in training and in spirit.

The city of Straubing declared 22 December 1951, 6th Armored Cavalry Day. At a Mounted Review, Colonel Rothwell Brown, Commanding Officer of the 6th, and the Oberburgmeister of Straubing stood side by side on the reviewing stand and accepted together the honors of the troops marching by. This was indeed a far cry from the early days of the occupation.

War and hatred faded as the years rolled by, and German-American friendship grew. On a cold, rainy day in February of 1957, as the 6th Armored Cavalry staged its final review before returning to the United States, it was presented a large silver shield by the Bavarian Government. The shield bears the inscription, "To the Sixth Armored Cavalry Regiment, The Shield of Bavaria, For its Outstanding Service in Bavaria, 20 November 1948, 17 March 1957. Dr. Wilhelm Hoegner, Minister President of Bavaria." It symbolized the warm friendship which had arisen during the post-war years between the regiment, and the people it had helped to conquer, and remained to protect. This is the only known official recognition given an American Unit by a state of Germany since before World War II.



THE SHIELD OF BAVARIA

Thus "The Fighting Sixth" ended its tour on the "Easternmost outpost of democracy", as it once again changed places with its sister regiment the 11th Armored Cavalry, under "Operation Gyroscope". After an absence of fourteen years, the regiment returned to American soil aboard the USS Geiger, and the USNS Buckner, arriving in New York late in March 1957. Fort Knox, Kentucky, The Home of Armor, was to be the new station for the 6th.

The first major mission at Fort Knox, was to furnish logistical support to Reserve and National Guard Units during their summer training periods.

In October of 1957, the 2nd Battalion under the command of Lt. Colonel Louis Gelling, re-enforced by other members of the regiment, cordoned the streets of Williamsburg, Virginia during the visit of Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain. During her visit the troops participated in the re-enactment of the Battle of Yorktown, and the surrender of the British Forces. Some wore the white uniforms of the French, while others portrayed the American Colonial Forces. Their outstanding performance in the pageant, as well as their impeccable appearance and conduct during their stay, brought praise from President Eisenhower, and a letter of appreciation from the Secretary of the Army, Mr. Wilber M. Brucker.

The regiment began writing a new chapter in its history in early January of 1958 as 1400 newly enlisted men reported to the 6th to start basic training. Upon completion of this training, the men were sent to the 11th Armored Cavalry in Germany, the opposite partner of the 6th in "Operation Gyroscope".

Since arriving at Fort Knox, almost every foreign group of officers visiting The Armor Center was briefed on the mission and organization of an Armored Cavalry Regiment by the Regimental Commanders and Staff. Numberless demonstrations of the various phases of Armored Cavalry life were presented to civic organizations and groups visiting the fort.

The 2nd Battalion spent the rest of 1958 conducting Basic Combat Training for replacement stream input personnel while the 1st Battalion was busily engaged in supporting the summer ROTC training program, and 3rd Battalion prepared for its annual test which all battalions were to complete in the early part of 1959.

During the Christmas season, 1958, Chaplain Shelley, Regimental Chaplain, recommended that the regiment help support the Open Door Children's Home near Hazard, Kentucky. Response from the regiment was instantaneous and contributions amounted to over $1300.00 in cash;

French ambassador inspects troops of 2nd Battalion, 6th Armored Cavalry, at Yorktown, Virginia.

THIS CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

IS GRATEFULLY TENDERED

THE SIXTH ARMORED CAVALRY REGIMENT OF

The United States Armored Center

IN THE BATTLE OF YORKTOWN

OCTOBER 19, 1957

FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE RENDERED TO

THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

AND THE NATION

FOR GENEROUSLY AIDING IN

The Jamestown Festival of 1957

CELEBRATING

AMERICA'S 350TH BIRTHDAY

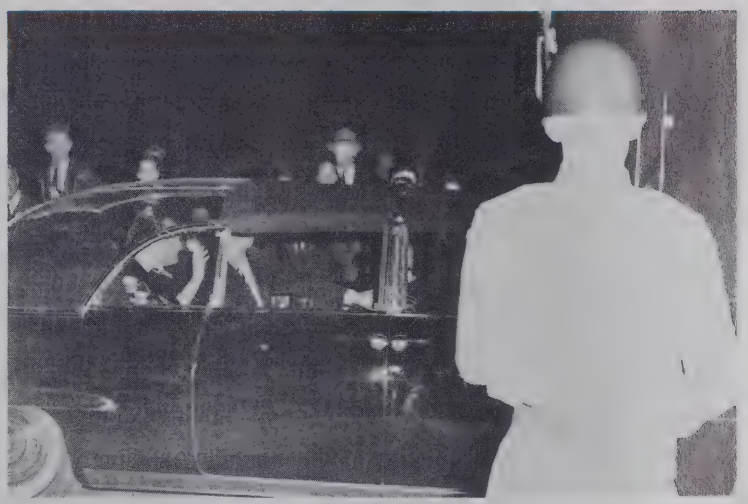
LEWIS A. MCMURRAN, JR.
Chairman
Virginia 350th Anniversary Commission

1607-1957 JAMESTOWN FESTIVAL

Presented to the Second Battalion, Sixth Armored Cavalry Regiment, the participating unit of the Regiment in the Battle of Yorktown, 19 October 1957.

TRACY B. HARRINGTON
Colonel, Armor, Comdg

Part of Security Cordon. for her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II of England, in historic Williamsburg, Virginia, during her visit on 16 Oct 57. Troopers of the 2nd Bn, 6th A/C are lined along the street. 10 officers and 400 EM participated in this event.



Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, of England, passes a member of the Security Cordon, which consisted of 10 Officers and 400 Enlisted Men of the 2d Bn 6th Armored Cavalry, 16 October 1957, as she visited historic Williamsburg, Va.

Members of the 2d Bn, 6th Cavalry, march to their assigned positions at the reenactment of the battle of Yorktown.

Members of the 2d Bn 6th Armored Cavalry, storm Redoubt #9 in the reenactment of the Battle of Yorktown — 19 Oct. 1957.

and gifts, such as a TV set, clothing, and toys were donated for this worthy purpose. On 18 Dec 1958, a group of Senior Noncommissioned officers flew by helicopter to the orphanage, had lunch with the children and took part in a gala Christmas party during the afternoon, at which time the gifts were presented.

Support of the orphanage was continued through 1959, with a similar trip to the Home made once more. Bad flying weather, however, precluded the group from remaining more than a few minutes at the orphanage. Donations amounted to well over a thousand dollars. Mr. and Mrs. Ragsdale, founders of the Open Door Children's Home, announced that the money would be used to help defray the cost of wiring a new school building which was then under construction.

During the first quarter of 1959, the regiment was top-heavy in noncommissioned officer strength, and very much under strength in the lower enlisted grades. It was a case of too many chiefs and not enough Indians. Because of this inequality only one TO/E platoon and the company headquarters could be mustered from each unit. As a result each company conducted squad and section tests and the battalions tested one composite reconnaissance platoon from each reconnaissance company. Battallion tests consisted of participation in Command Post Exercises (Apache Moon I and II and War Bonnet I) conducted by Regimental Headquarters.

The lack of balance between noncommissioned officers and lower enlisted grades was attributed to gyroscope program, many of the noncommissioned officers had long periods of service with the 6th Cavalry, and intended to continue as members. The lower enlisted grades on the other hand were non-career soldiers who had no intention of remaining in service, and had been sent home with the 6th as their ETS approached.

During April of 1959 approximately 2,000 fillers were received, and the regiment started to train them for inclusion in the gyroscope program to be conducted in November without sister regiment, the 11th Armored Cavalry. During this same month an advance party consisting of the Regimental Commander, the three battalion commanders, key staff officers and the Regimental Sgt Major were sent to Germany to discuss with their opposite numbers in the 11th, mutual problems and the best way to solve them.

The following month the 11th Armored Cavalry sent their Regimental Adjutant to Fort Knox to explore problem areas, particularly housing, for the 11th.

On Organization Day, which was held Friday, 1 May 1959, a most welcome guest was Major Cliff Smith (retired), who spent 28 years of continuous service with the 6th Cavalry. Major Smith enlisted in 1915, was immediately assigned to the "Fighting Sixth", and rose through the ranks to become Regimental Sergeant Major. In 1942, Major Smith received a commission and completed his Army career in varied assignments outside the 6th Cavalry. During the Organization Day festivities, Major Smith donated a silver cup which he had won in 1921 as the individual winner of a track and field Meet held at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia. The cup was donated to F Company, the company which Major Smith was assigned as First Sergeant, when he won the cup. Major Smith's son, James, entered the service early in World War II. His first assignment was as a 2nd lieutenant in the 6th Cavalry. He remained with the 6th Cavalry until wounded in Germany early in 1945. Major Smith and Colonel Harrington concluded the day's festivities by awarding trophies and certificates to winners of the scheduled events.

With training proceeding according to plan, and the regimental strength somewhat in excess of that authorized, the 6th Armored Cavalry, by the fall of 1959, reached its highest state of combat readiness since returning from Europe.

In June word was received from Department of Army that the 6th would not gyroscope in November as planned, but would remain assigned to Fort Knox. In place of the Gyroscope operation, the 6th immediately started to work on the Carrier Company Replacement System. In accordance with these new regulations each company would be divided into four man teams. Insofar as possible each quartet was formed of individuals with similar MOS's, destination, and the desire to serve together. After arrival overseas, every effort was made to assign the members of each team to the same platoon. Personnel granted concurrent travel were not included in carrier companies.

The cancellation of gyroscope began the largest turnover in noncommissioned officer strength that the regiment had experienced since the end of World War II, as the great majority of "old timers" departed for various assignments all over the world. One of the last to go was Sergeant Major Herbert L. Stanford who had been with the regiment for almost thirteen years. The 37 year old sergeant joined the regiment as a staff sergeant in 1947 and served continuously with it until his departure in December 1959. During a farewell ceremony held for Sgt. Major Stanford, Colonel Edward C. Dunn presented the sergeant a letter of commendation which stated in part that he was truly the "first soldier of the regiment."

The 1st Battalion under the command of Lt Col William J. Spahr distinguished themselves in September of 1959 by undertaking an exercise involving night firing to determine the proficiency of all elements of the battalion under combat conditions. On hand to witness the night firing exercises were members of the US Army Human Research Unit, continuing their research on night operations. To measure individual and crew skills during the exercise, these men rode through the course on the turrets

of participating tanks.

The course was highly successful in evaluating crew performance under night conditions.

In the early evening of 15 October 1959, a B-52 bomber and a K-135 tanker, engaged in a mid-air refueling operation, collided and crashed about 15 miles southwest of Hardinsburg Kentucky, killing eight of the twelve crewmen. Information was received at 6th Armored Cavalry Headquarters that one of the aircraft involved was carrying nuclear weapons, and as a result the regiment's Chimical, Biological, and Radiological (CBR) team was alerted for movement. Although the team was on a two hour alert notice, all 10 members were present at Godman Airfield ready to fly to the crash site within 35 minutes after receiving notification. An hour later the team arrived by helicopter and rapidly accomplished their mission of insuring that the area was clear of radiation. The team, under the command of 1st Lt John H. Kirkwood, was complimented highly on its performance of duty by the Commanding General, US Army Armor Center. All team members were from the 2nd Battalion.

During November of 1959 tank crews of the 3rd Battalion engaged in vigorous field problems in the Dorrets Run Tank Range Area, becoming the first unit to undergo the new TO&E tank platoon tests designed by the Human Research Unit at Fort Knox. The Fighting Sixth was chosen because a tactical unit with combat capabilities was needed. The test was designed to evaluate basic unit training more critically in armor units where training must meet the highest standards testers can devise.

The 3rd Battalion racked up another first when certificates of achievements were issued to eight trainees of Tank Company for successfully completing the first course on the operation of vehicles constructed under the GOER concept. These vehicles, capable of carrying 15 ton payloads cross country, through mud and water, are a new concept in off road transport.

In spite of the large turn-over in personnel during the latter part of 1959 and early 60 the regiment launched a new training program which consists of conducting basic combat and advanced individual training for tankers. The 1st and 3rd Battalions were responsible for Basic Combat Training while the 2nd Battalion, supported by the tank companies of the 1st and 3rd Battalions conducted Advanced Individual Training for approximately 320 personnel. The BCT program called for training some 5400 personnel by July 1960. In February of 1960, the Advanced Individual Training was completed; and at the present time, all the battalions are engaged in training soldiers that will be a credit to the regiment.

In spite of the cancellation of Gyroscope, and the resulting turnover in personnel, the regiment retains the desire and ability to excel.

Award of the Post Bi-Monthly shooting trophy for both pistol and rifle four time is in keeping with the traditions of the "Fighting Sixth" to stand at the top.

Selection of 6th Armored Cavalry soldiers as "Post Soldiers of the Month" was frequent. During 1959 the regiment was awarded the plaque emblematic of the highest percentage of eligible reenlistments at the US Army Armor Center 3 of the 4 calendar quarters.

As the 100th year of service dawns, the immediate future of the 6th Armored Cavalry is unknown. Whatever or wherever it may be, whether garrison duty or field service, peace or war, the regiment will stand true to the motto inscribed on its crest, **Ducit Amor Patriae.**

CAMPAIGN STREAMERS

The 6th Armored Cavalry has been awarded a total of thirty five campaign streamers for action in various parts of the world. Campaign streamers are awarded for active Federal military service to organizations which are authorized an organizational color or standard, to recognize receipt of combat credit.

"The Fighting Sixth" is credited with the following campaign streamers.

Fredericksburg	1862	Texas	1874
Virginia	1862	Oklahoma	1874
Peninsula	1862	Arizona	1876
Antietam	1862	Arizona	1881
Chancellorsville	1863	Arizona	1882
Gettysburg	1863	New Mexico	1882
Maryland	1863	Colorado	1884
Virginia	1863	Apaches	1885-86
Wilderness	1864	Pine Ridge	1890-91
Spotsylvania	1864	Santiago	1898
Cold Harbor	1864	China Relief Expedition	1900
Shenandoah	1864	Philippine Insurrection	1900
Virginia	1864	World War I	1918
Petersburg	1864-65	Normandy	1944
Appamattox	1865	Northern France	1944
Virginia	1865	Rhineland	1944-45
Comanches	1867	Ardennes-Alsace	1944-45
		Central Europe	1945

CAMPAIGN SILVER BANDS

Campaign Silver Bands have been awarded to three units of the 6th Armored Cavalry. These silver bands are awarded for active Federal military service to units authorized a guidon to recognize participation in a campaign. These are not authorized if the unit is an organic element of a battalion, regiment, or larger unit, authorized a streamer for the same campaign.

Company F—Texas 1867 Company H—Arizona 1877
Tank Company 3rd Bn—Peking 1900

DECORATION

The regiment has one decoration, The Distinguished Unit Citation, embroidered "Harlange Pocket". A discussion of this decoration is found in the history.

Lt Colonel
WALTER GORDON FRAUENHEIM, JR.
Squadron Commander

1st RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON

Captain
GLENN R. REASER
Troop Commander

"C" TROOP—1st RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON
GRADUATION DATE—AUGUST 19, 1960

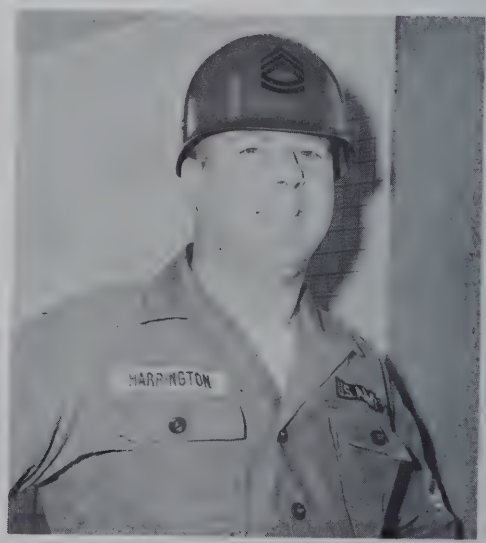
COMPANY OFFICERS AND CADRE

"C" TROOP—GRADUATION DATE—AUGUST 19, 1960

Lieutenant
CLARENCE GRIFFIN
Executive Officer

1st Sgt
CHARLES S. MARKIEWICS
First Sergeant

M/Sgt
IRVIN J. MAGGARD
Senior Platoon Sergeant



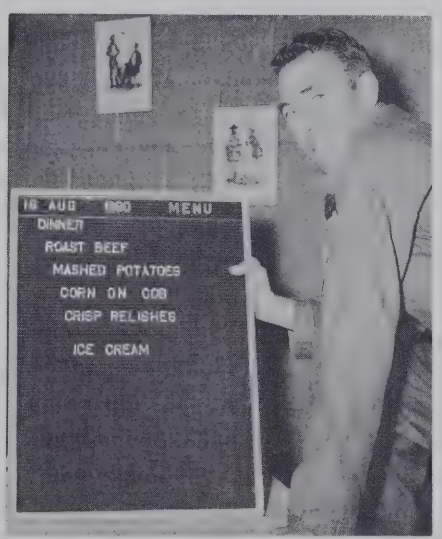
SFC
WILLIAM H. HARRINGTON
Section Leader

SFC
JOE B. MANGRUM
Platoon Sergeant

SFC
ROBERT L. MUNCY
Operations Sergeant

S/Sgt
PAUL RYAN, JR.
Platoon Sergeant

Sgt
TROY E. SMITH
Section Leader



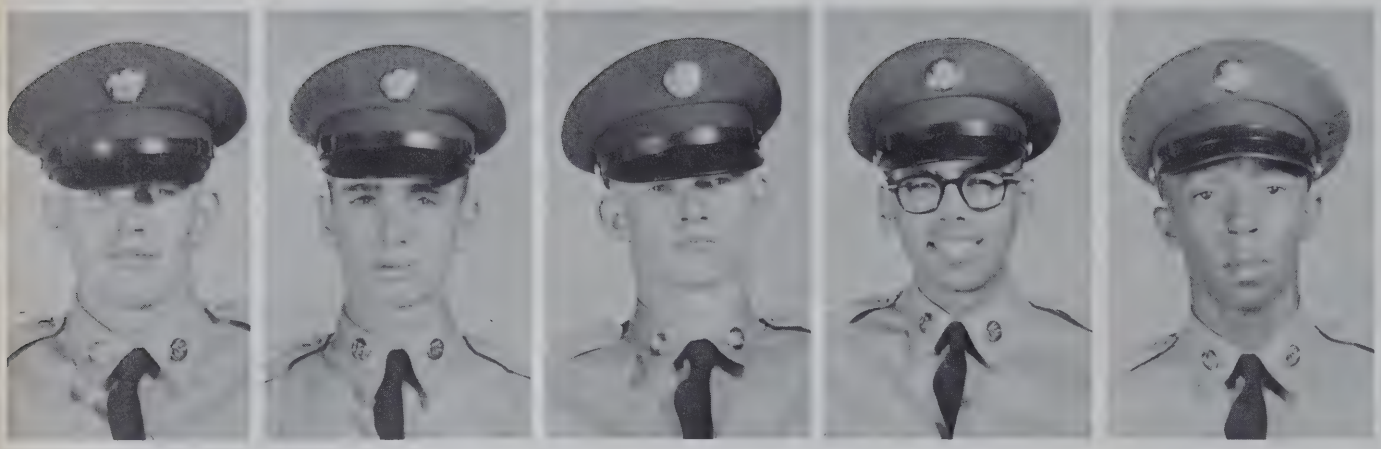
Sgt
JAMES L. HOPKINS
Mess Sergeant

SP/5
P. J. HORVATH
Commo Man

PFC
B. J. KEEBLER
Troop Clerk

PFC
W. M. PETTERSON
Mail Clerk

Rct
ROBERT F, SCHMID
High M1 Score; Outstanding
Squadron Leader; High Proficiency



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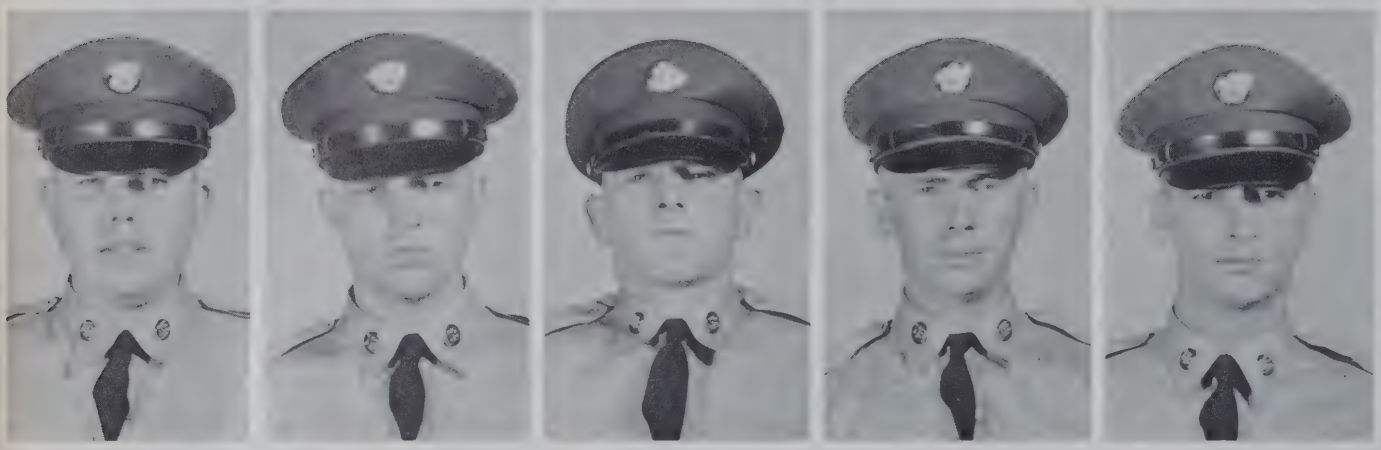
Pasquale V. Albaneso
Robert A. Alpeter
Michael L. Altomare
Ben A. Anglin



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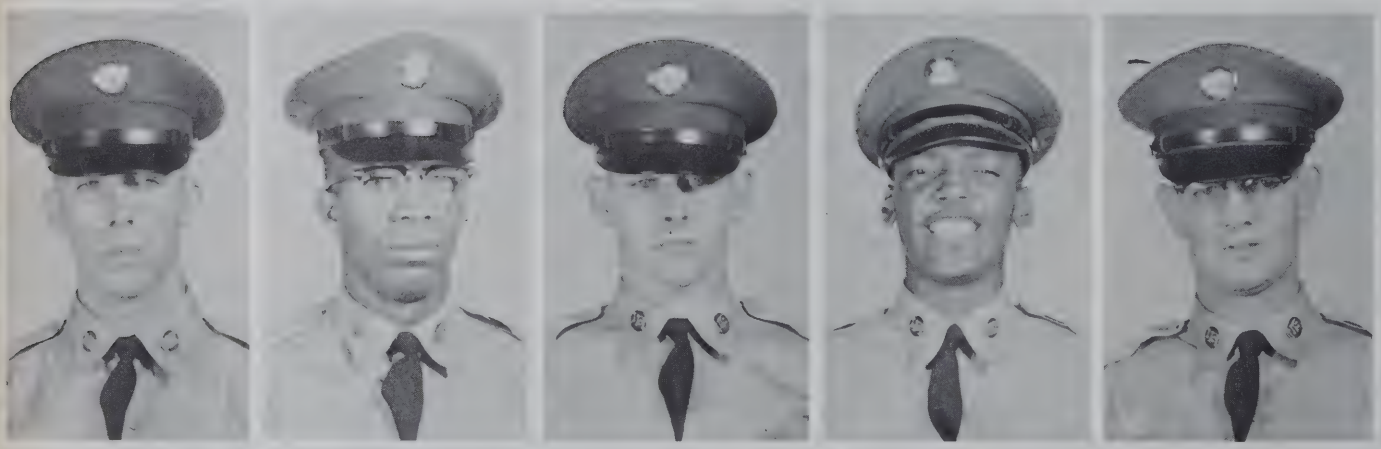
William C. Arnett
Andrew T. Ashford, Jr
Larry D. Banghart
Kenneth R. Bauer
William Baumgardner



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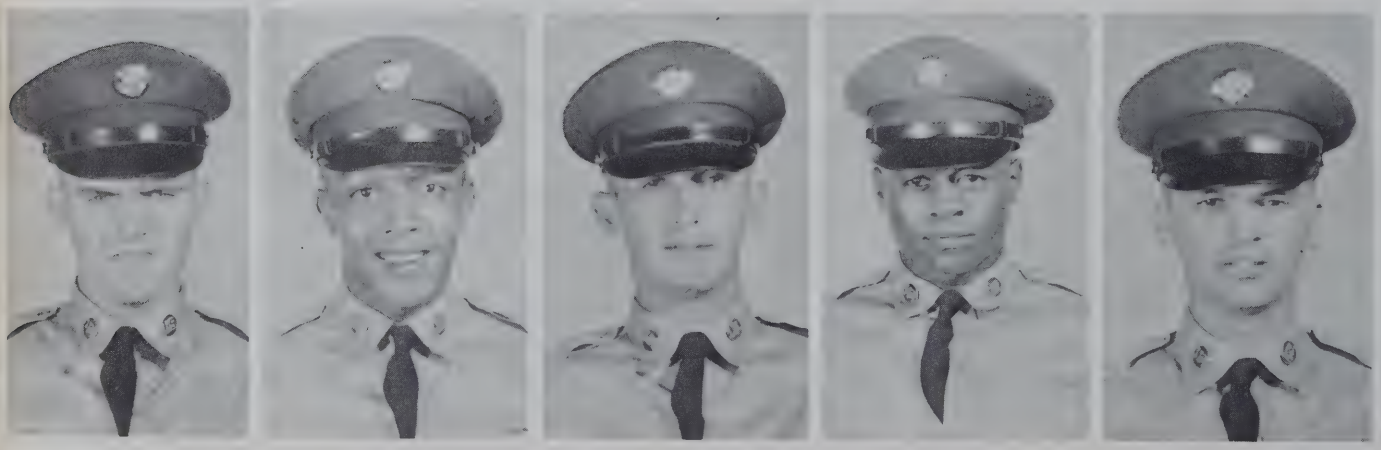
David A. Beckett
Joseph H. Beckwith
Charles L. Bentley
Theodore Berman
Harold J. Bores



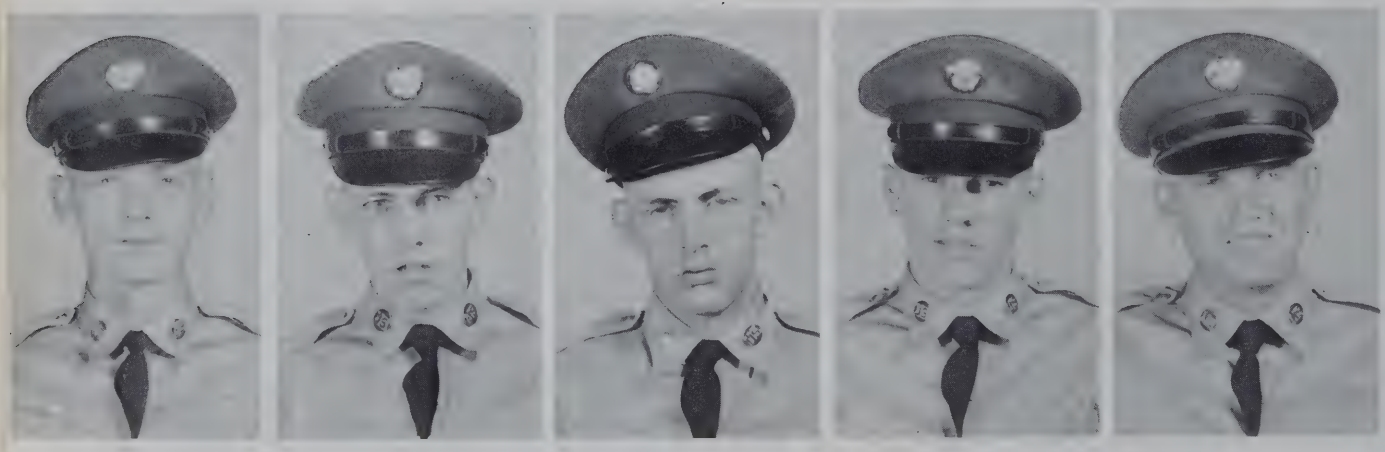
L to R
William Brewer
Jerry D. Brooks
Carl W. Brown
Darryl E. Brown
Harry Brown, Jr.

DISMOUNTED DRILL

L to R
Philip E. Brown
Jerry A. Bryant
Loy S. Buehler
Stephen G. Burnisky
Robert C. Burns

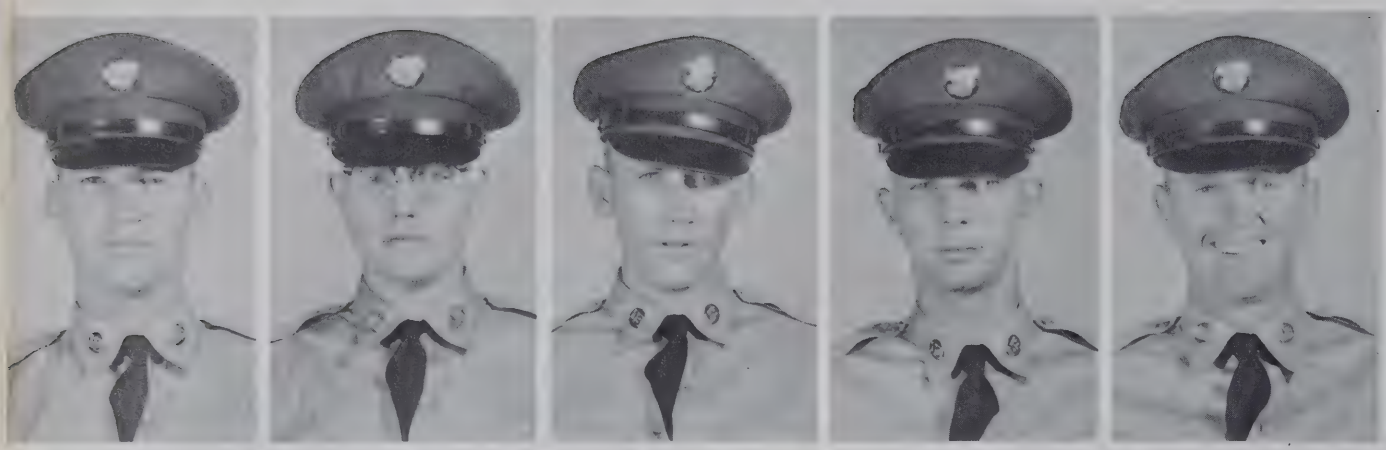
L to R
Merlyn V. Burton
Edward W. Cable
Nelson E. Calkins
Thomas J. Campbell
Joseph J. Carbenia

L to R
Gary M. Carrier
Floyd D. Cawthorn
Julian Charles
Darl E. Claycomb
Norbert J. Collopy

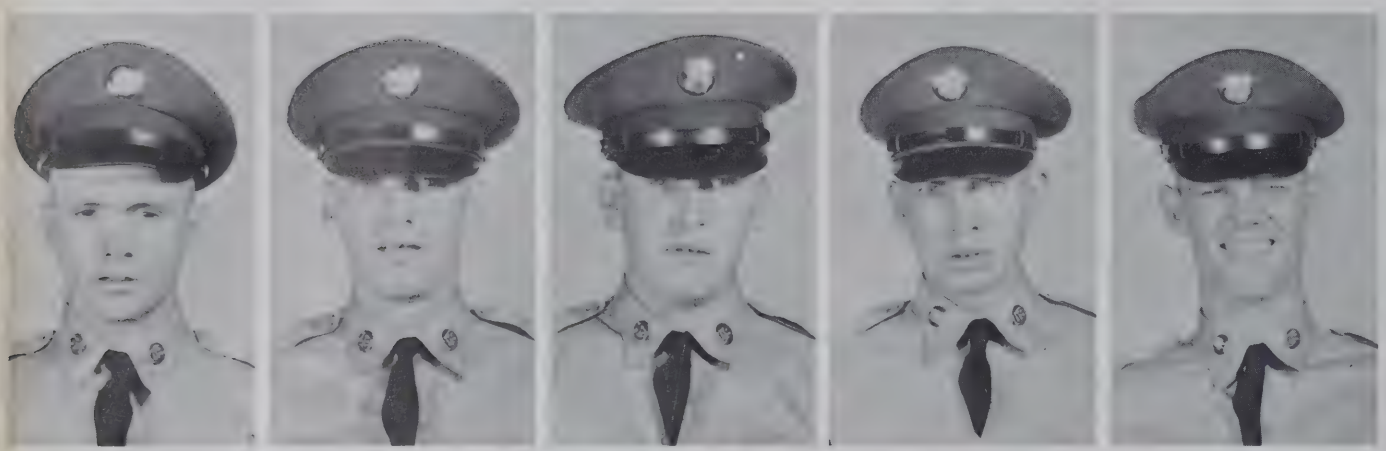


L to R
Jimmy D. Compton
Charles C. Conklin
Paul A. Conner
Monte D. Cooper
Marvin L. Corwin

TRAINFIRE

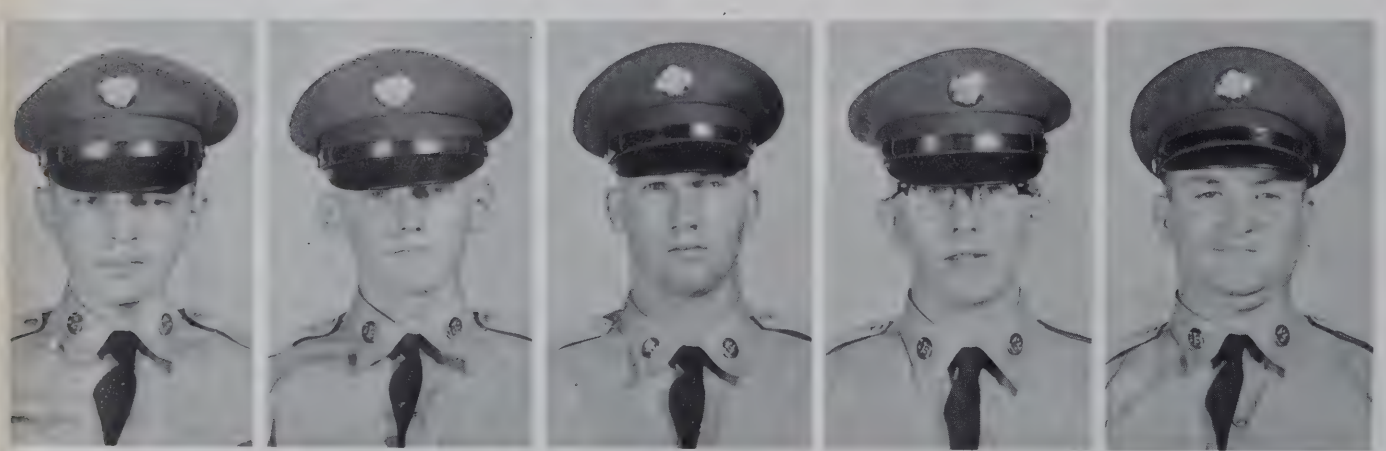


L to R
Kenneth Crowell
Warren E. Darling
Gearold D. Davis
Albert J. De Haan
James E. Dennison



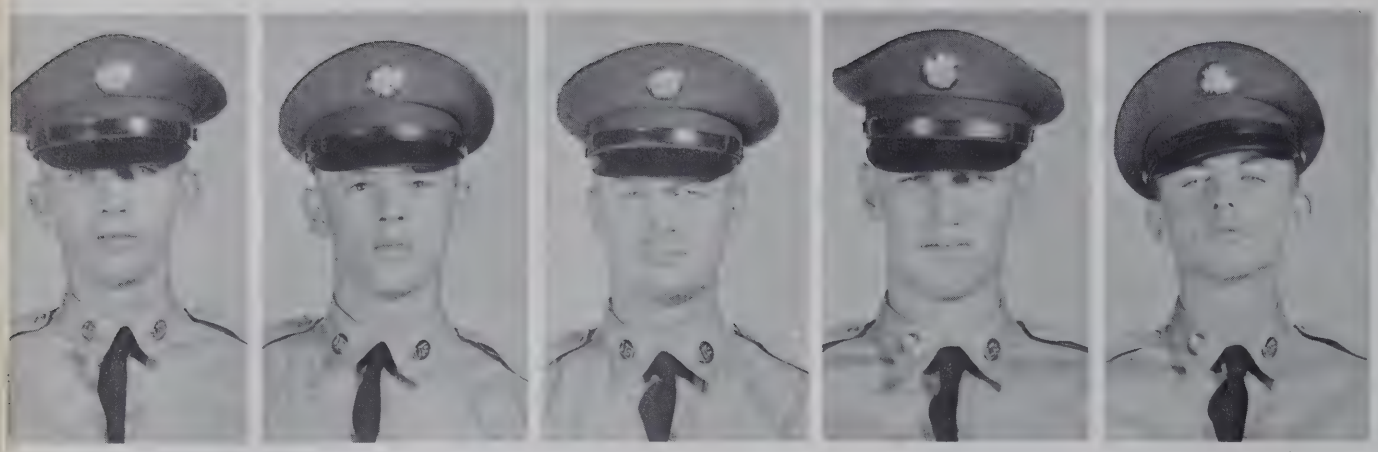
L to R
Ronald R. Deshano
John P. Devereaux
Willard A. Dillon
Donald H. Dotson
Donald R. Dotson

L to R
James W. Duncan
Joseph E. Duraney
Michael D. Dwyer
Arthur J. Dziedzicki
Robert L. Ervin



L to R
Leonard E. Filhart
Dwight D. Fitzpatrick
Clarence Foster
Clarence H. Frost
Donald M. Frtalich

TRAINFIRE



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Kenneth D. Fruchey
William G. Gambrell
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Floyd A. Gray

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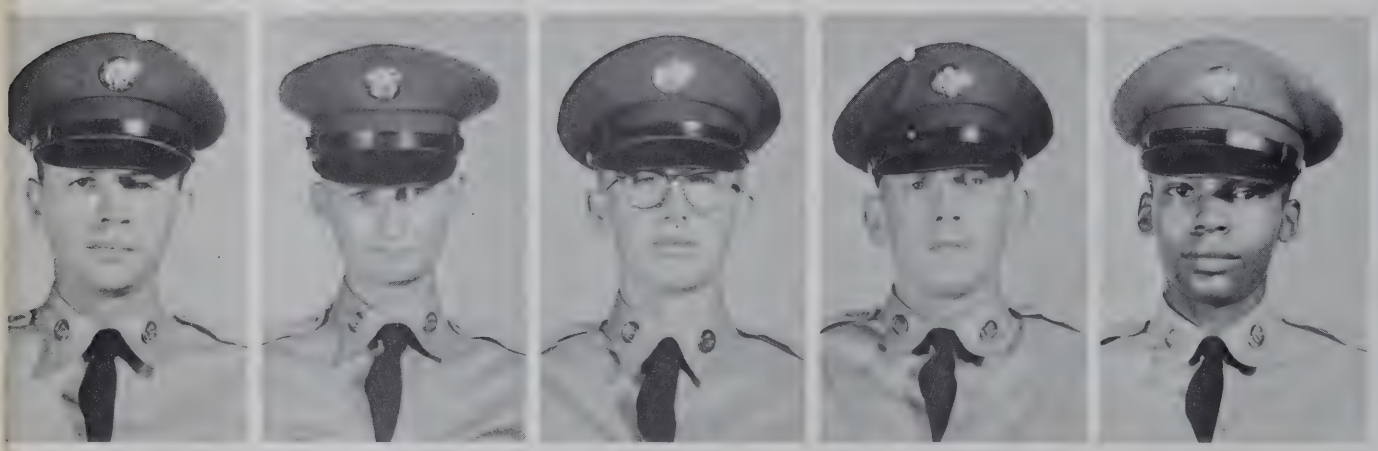
Homer Griffith, Jr.
Jesse E. Griffith
Lee Grubb
Roger Guthrie
Charles G. Haberger



L to R
Bernard R. Hackney
Paul J. Hale
Jackie E. Harper
Arthur Hawkins
David L. Hayes

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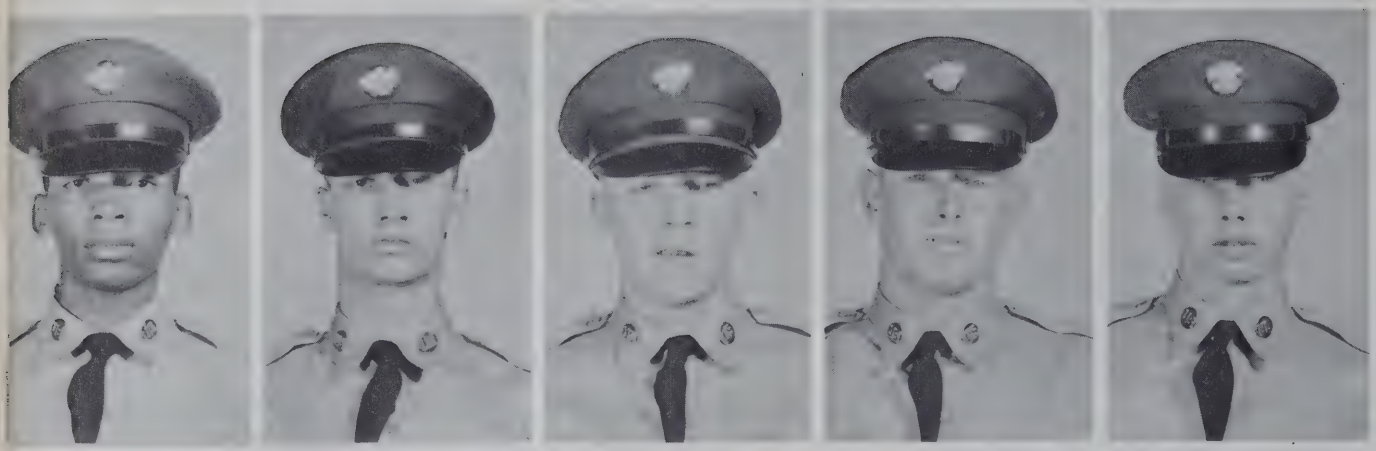
James Heben
Richard C. Heybruch
Michael A. Hickman
Donald E. Hines
Kenneth A. Hoefler

CHOW IN THE MESS HALL



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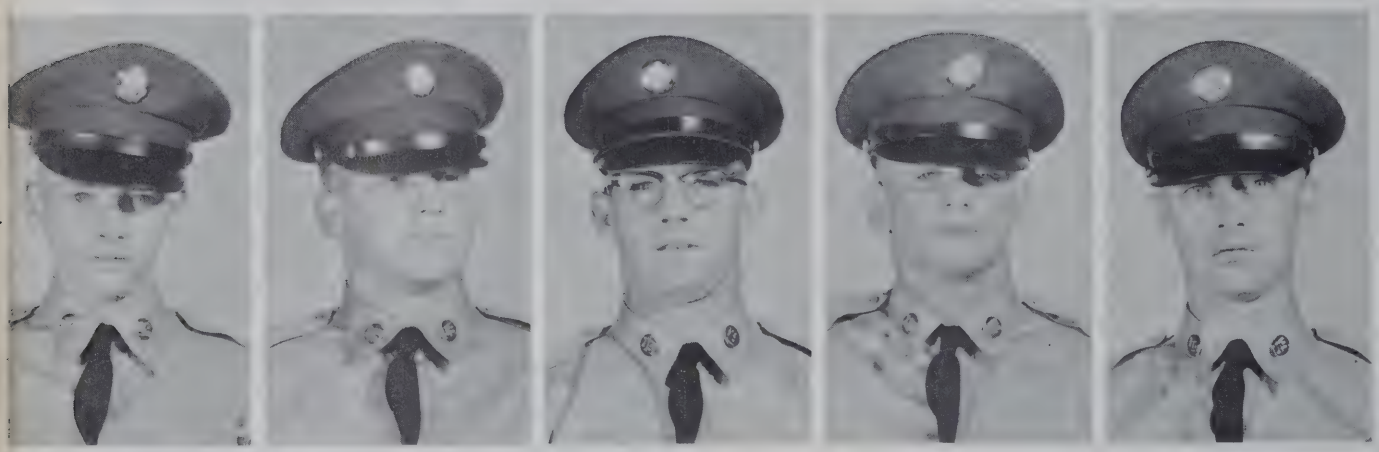
Howard C. Holland
Larry Horn
Dennis J. Horner
Kenneth W. Howell
Philip J. Hrischuk, Jr.



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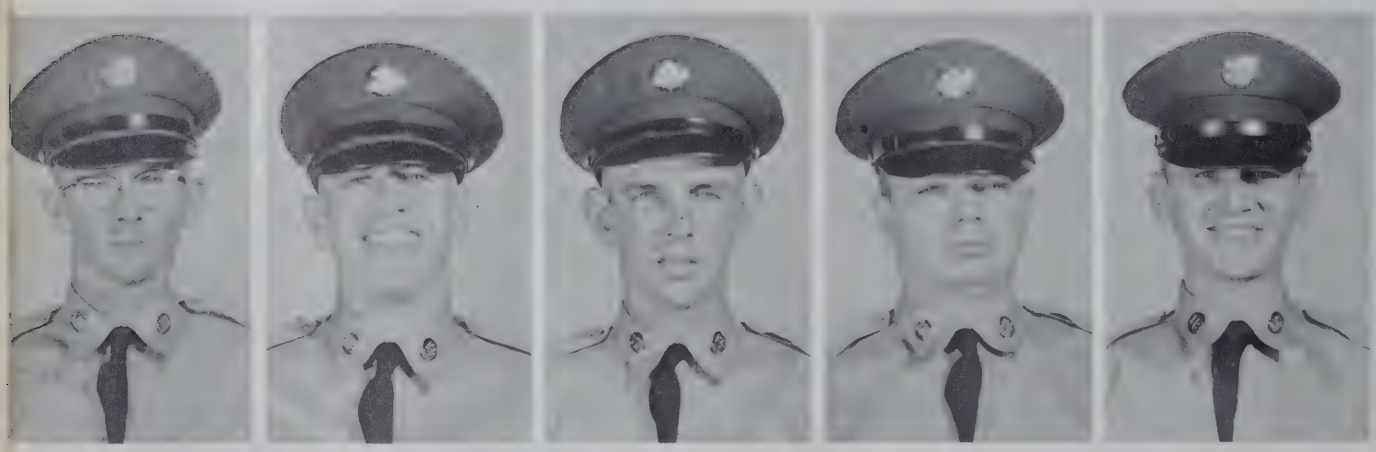
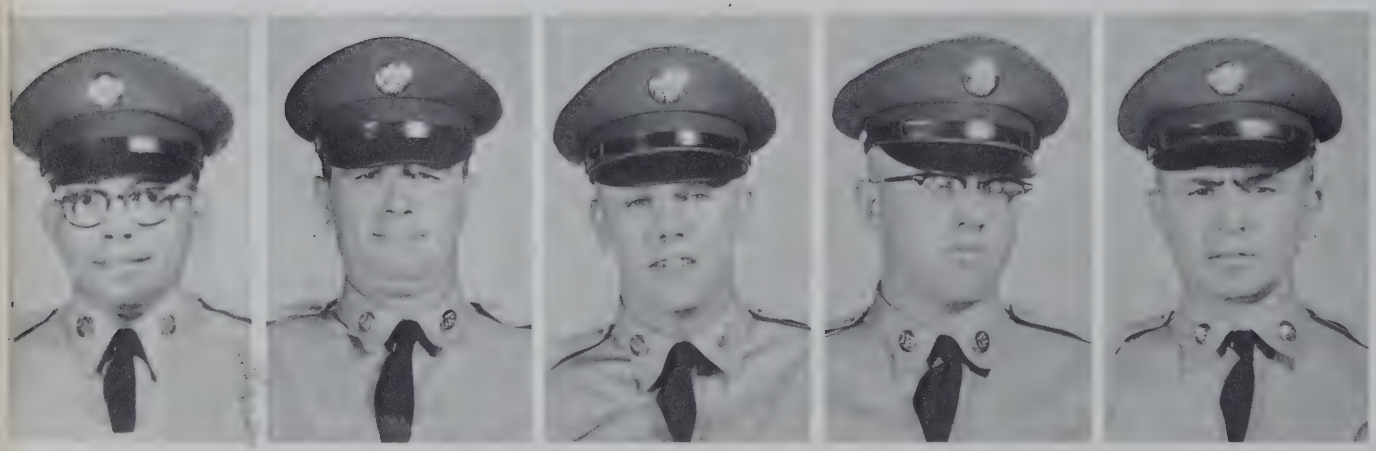
Roy M. Huffine
Ward C. Huier
Gary J. Hurley
John H. Iacovacci
James Irvin

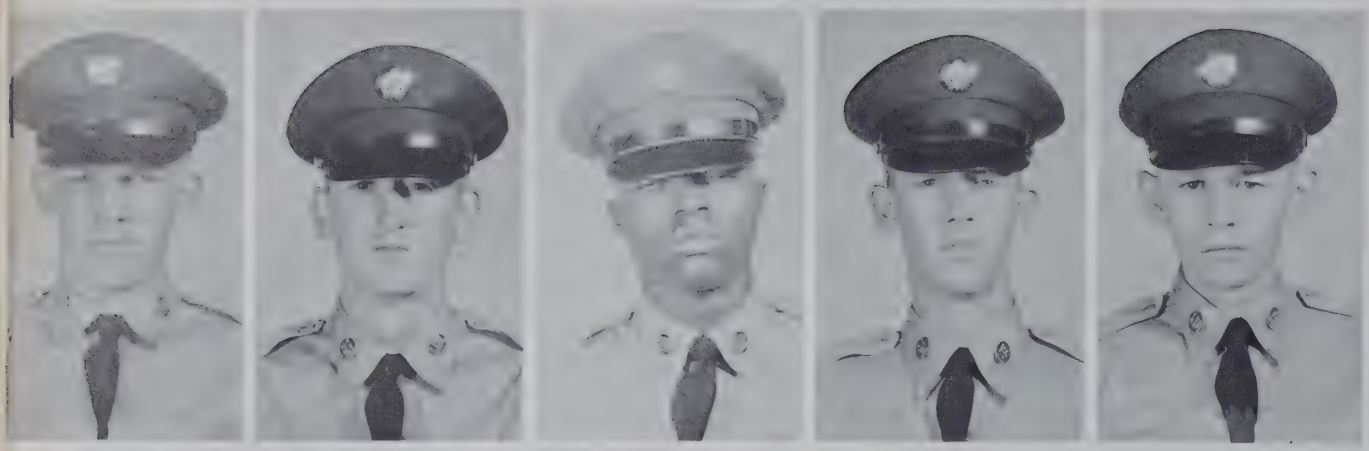


L to R
Carl L. Isaacs
Leo G. Jacob
Samuel W. Jameson
Roger F. Jensen
James C. Johnson

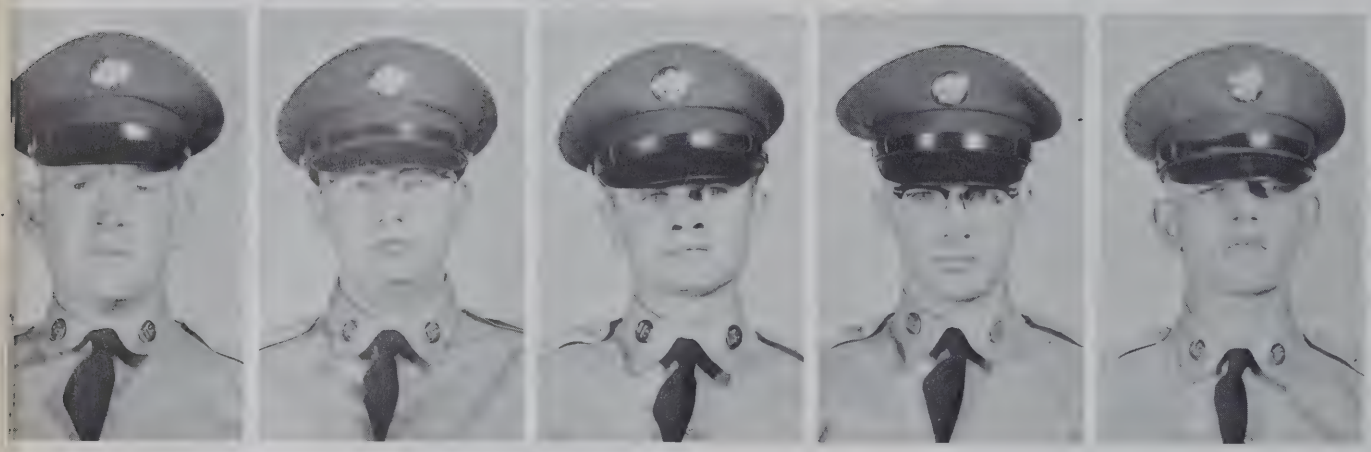


L to R
Philip F. Johnson
William D. Joy
Richard L. King
Thomas P. Kinnell
Evangelos Kremydas

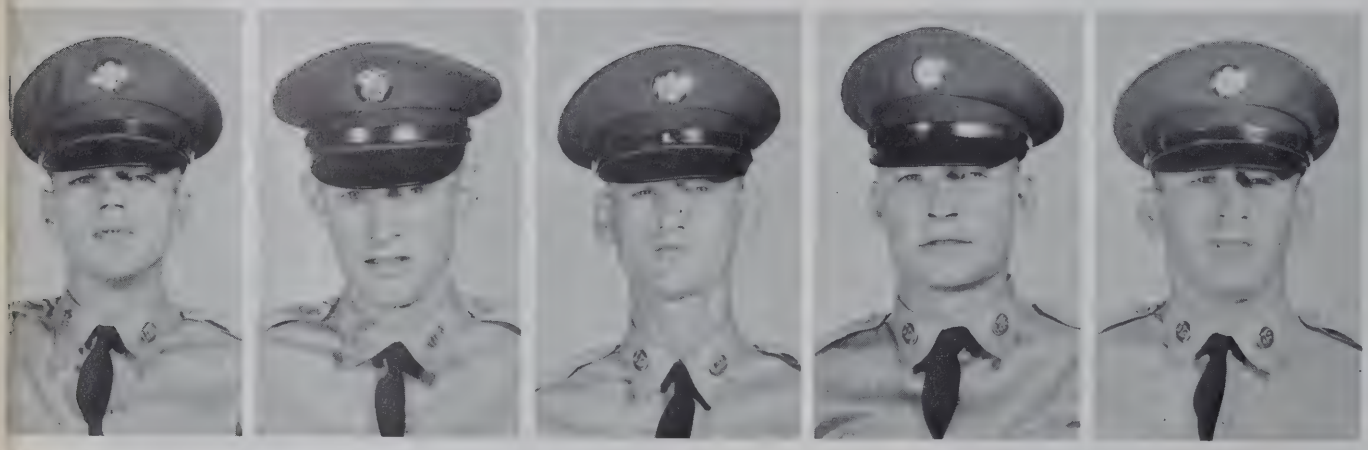
BARRACKS LIFE



L to R
John Kuta
Edward L. Lambert
Napoleon Landers
Robert A. Langhorne
Richard C. Lawson



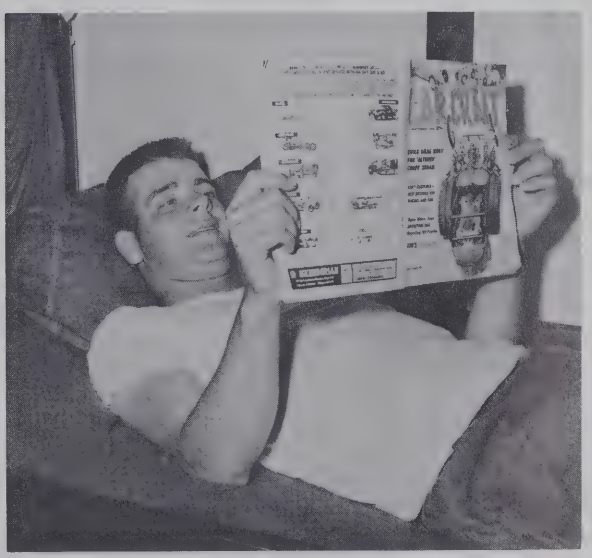
L to R
Harold Layne
Carl Lemaster
Anton Lieb
Richard Lucas
Robert F. Ludwig, Jr.

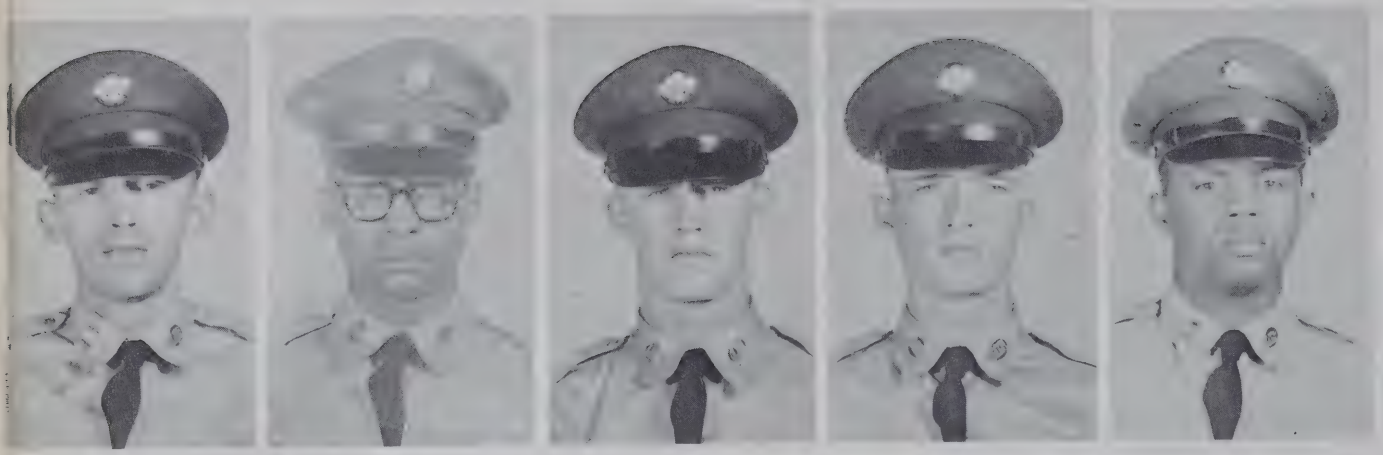


L to R
Harold Mahaffee
Thomas S. Main
Charles L. Marolt
Robert E. Mc Cullough
Robert B. Medley

L to R
Edward Michela
Fairet T. Miller
George M. Miller
James F. Miller
John C. Milliren

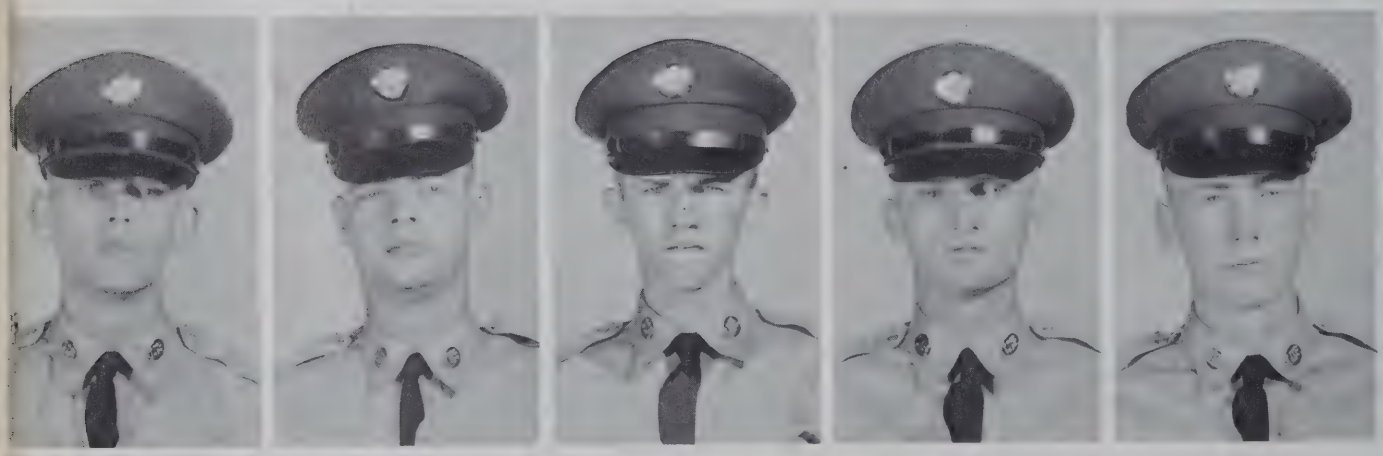
BARRACKS LIFE



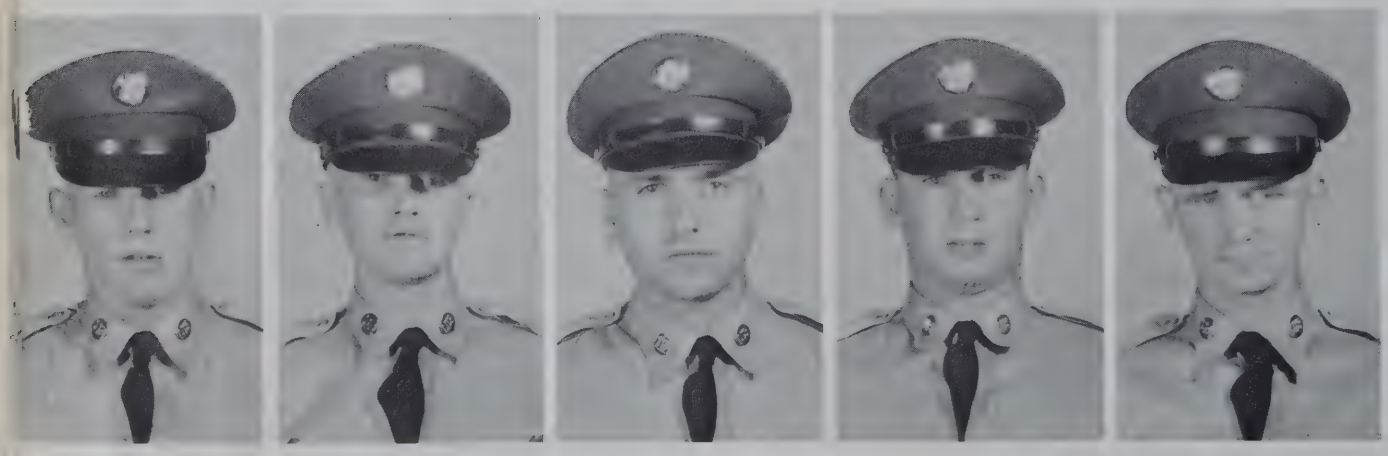


L to R
Wendell L. Moody
Oliver H. Mosby
William A. Mulhern
James E. Mullins
Julius N. Parks

L to R
Hubert G. Patterson
Franklin W. Pearce
Antonio Presutto
Rolland R. Reash
Gerald L. Retherford

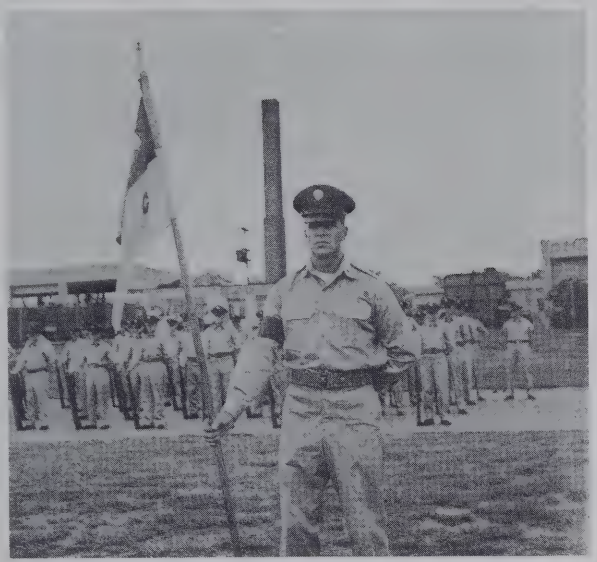


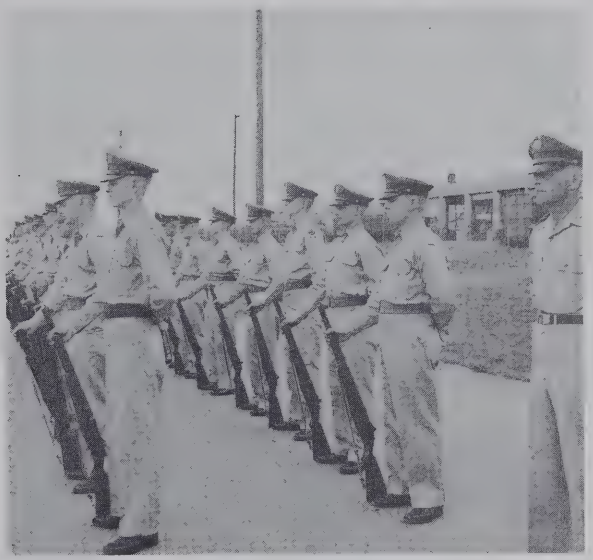
L to R
Robert L. Reynolds
Russell L. Rich, Jr.
Thomas Richards
Donald W. Ridenour
Earl Roberts

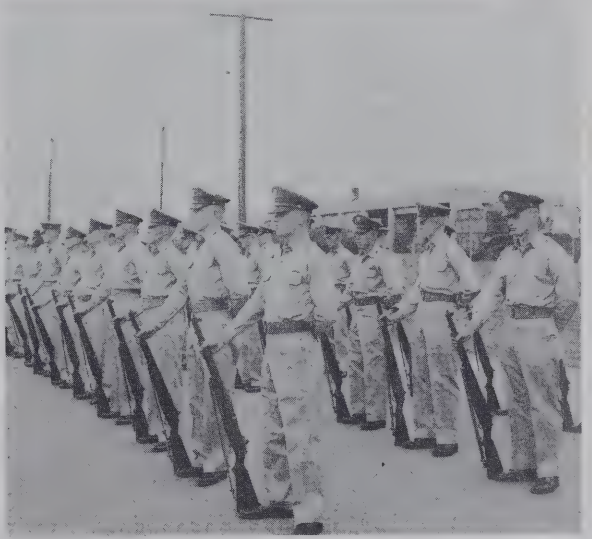


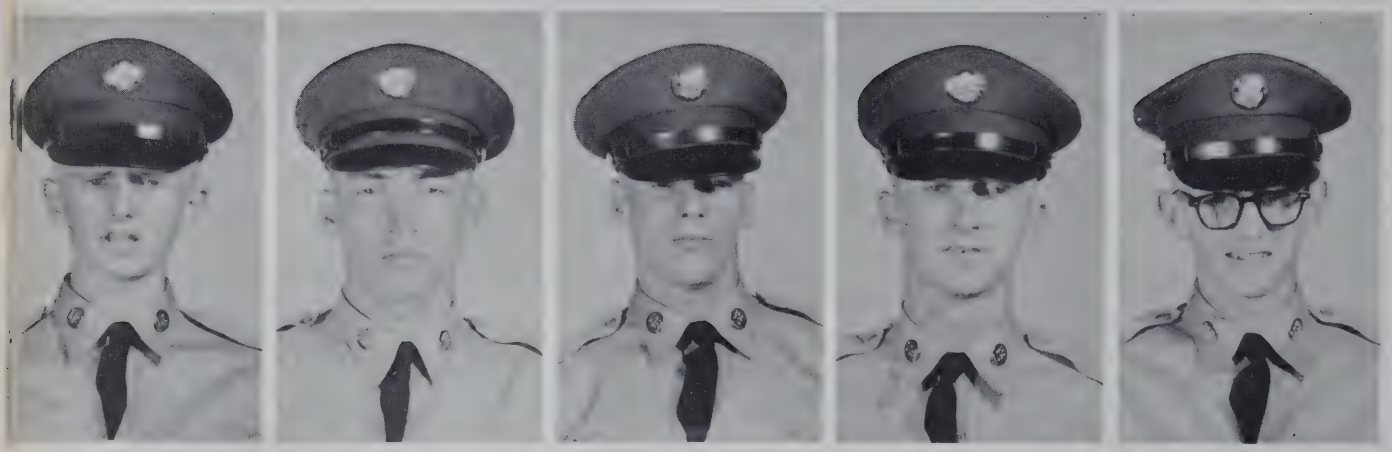
L to R
Wayne Roberts
Dewey Rolley
Paul Sakellariou
Richard A. Sayre
Elmer L. Stafford

INSPECTION

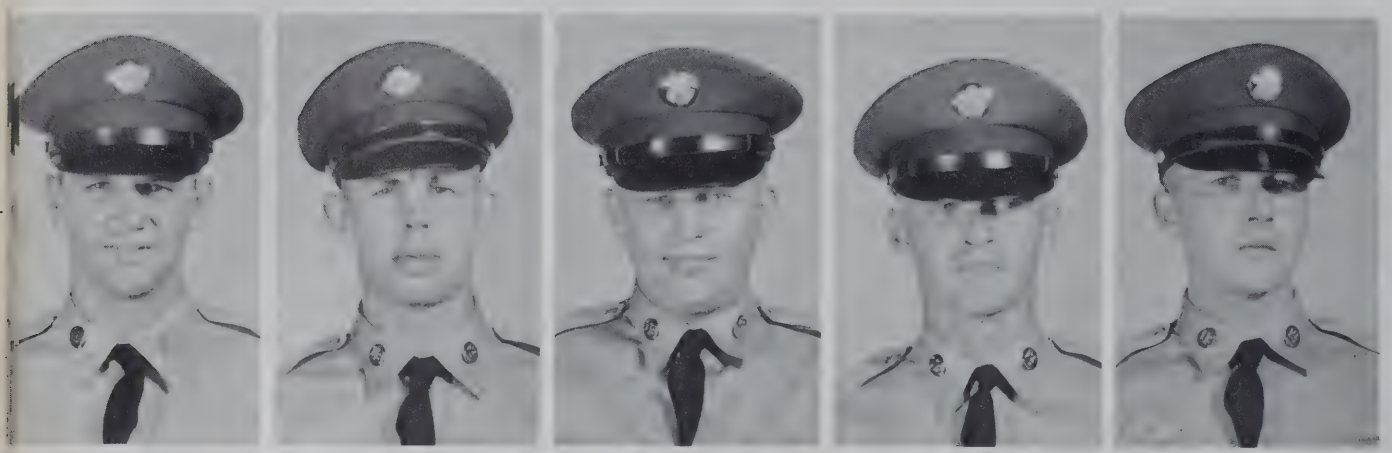








L to R
Louis E. Schantz
Robert F. Schmid
Michael R. Schurman
Larry D. Scott
Richard L. Scott



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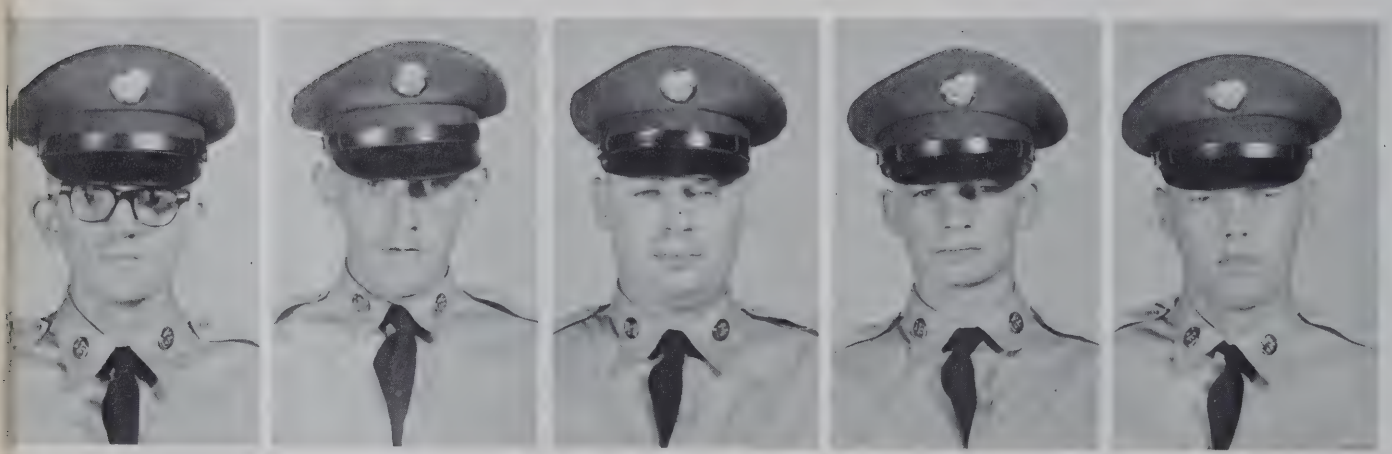
Ted U. Seibert
Victor Seidlertz
James P. Shane
Roger Shelt



L to R
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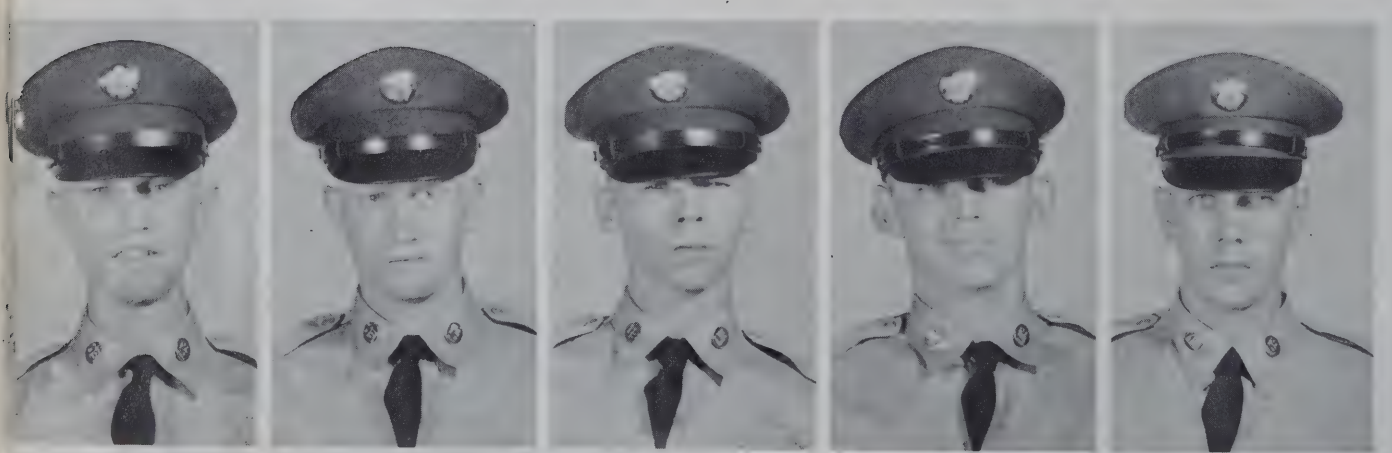
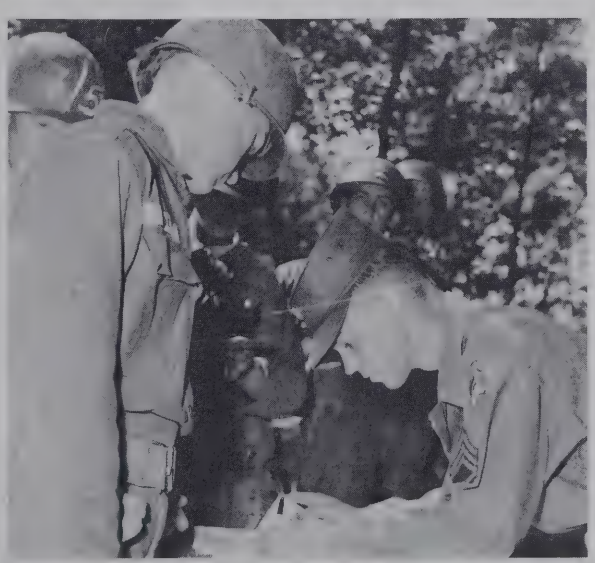
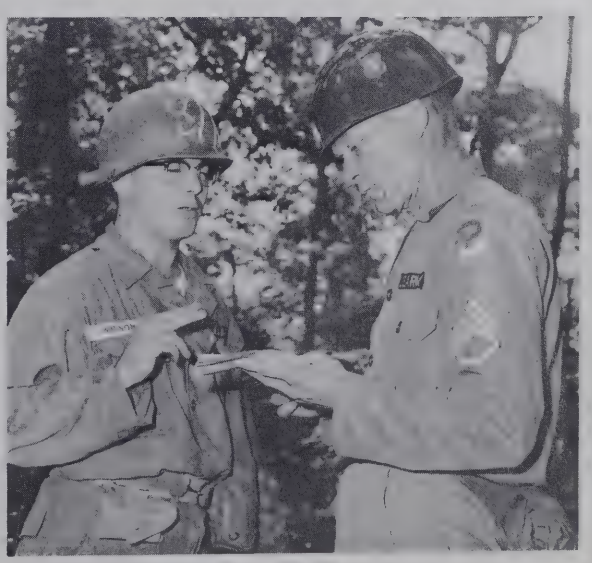
Robert G. Silverwood
Willard Simpson, Jr.
Lon Smith
Jack E. Snider

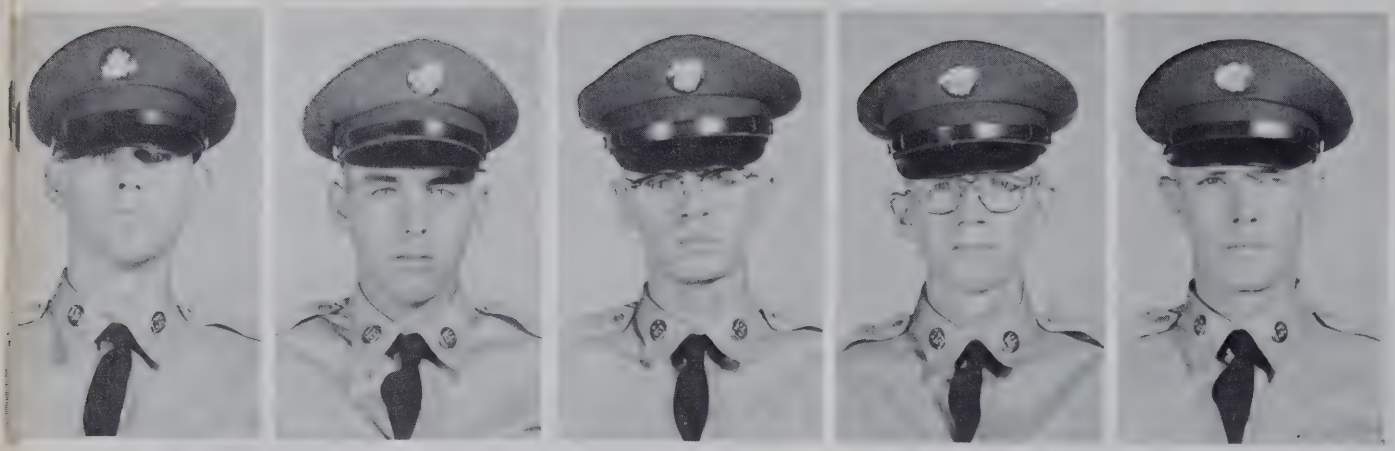


L to R
Bernard G. Snyder
Charles E. Snyder
Larry L. Sowinski
John R. Stalnaker
Golden A. Stover

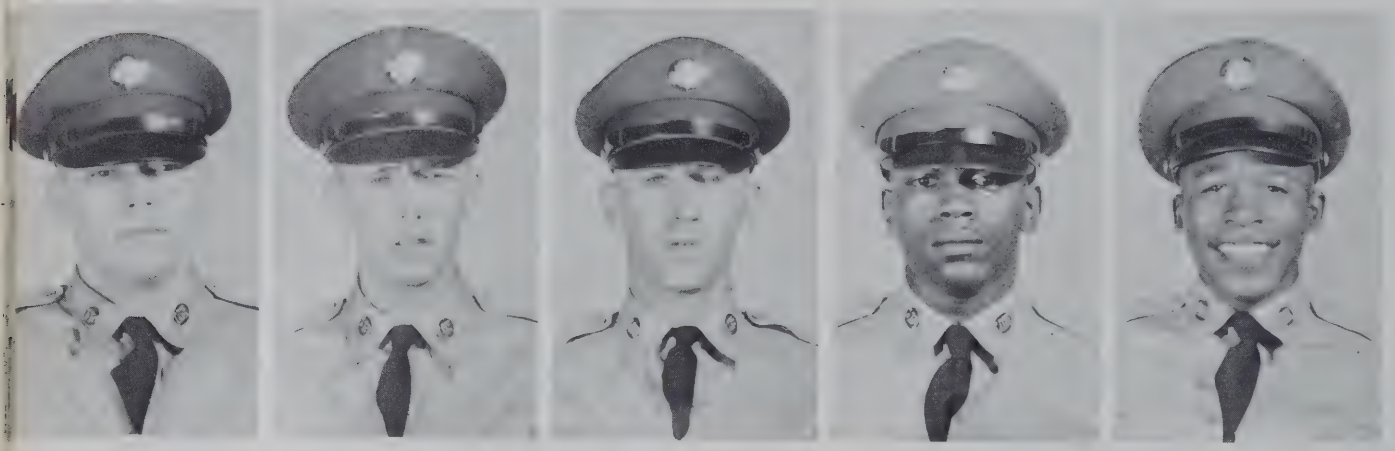
PROFICIENCY TEST



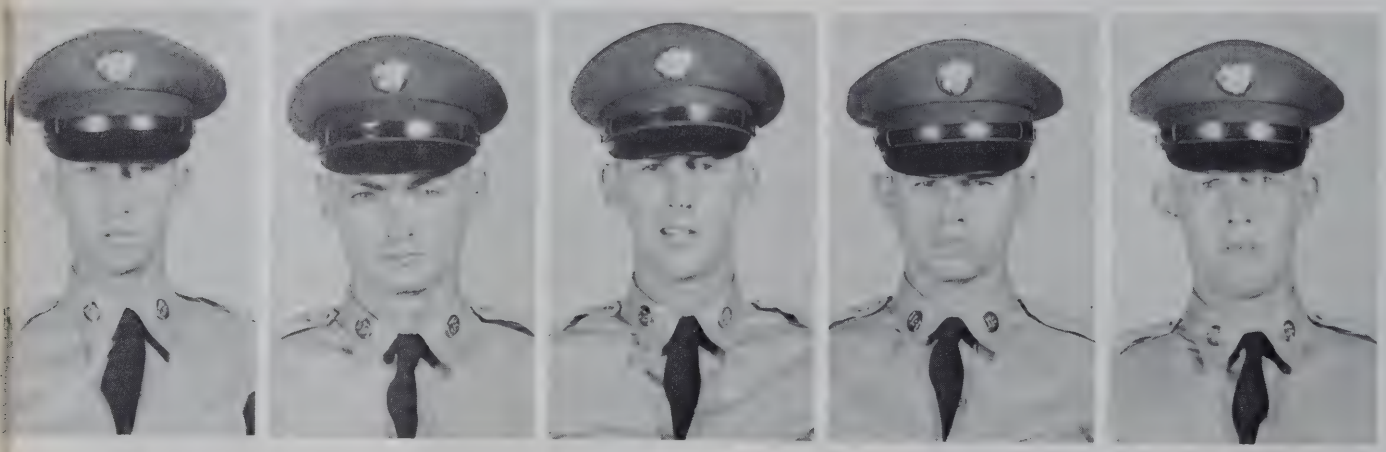




L to R
Charles Stouder
Harvey Stutzman
John W. Swingle
Robert N. Tabol
Charles Turner



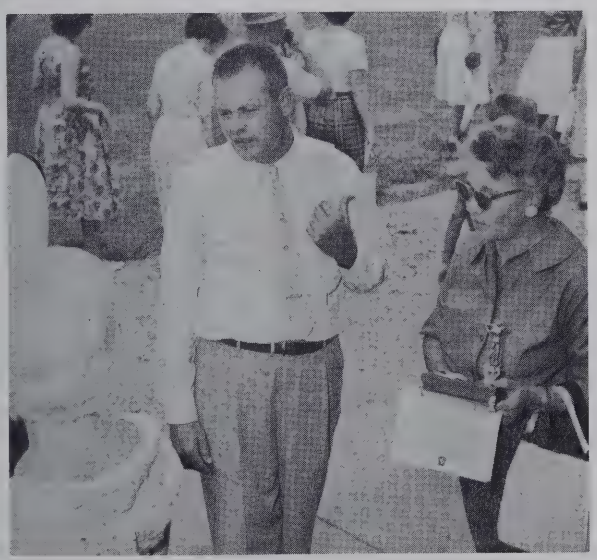
L to R
Donald R. Vance
Frederick W. Vance
Gilbert D. Walk
S. T. Walker
Walter L. Walker

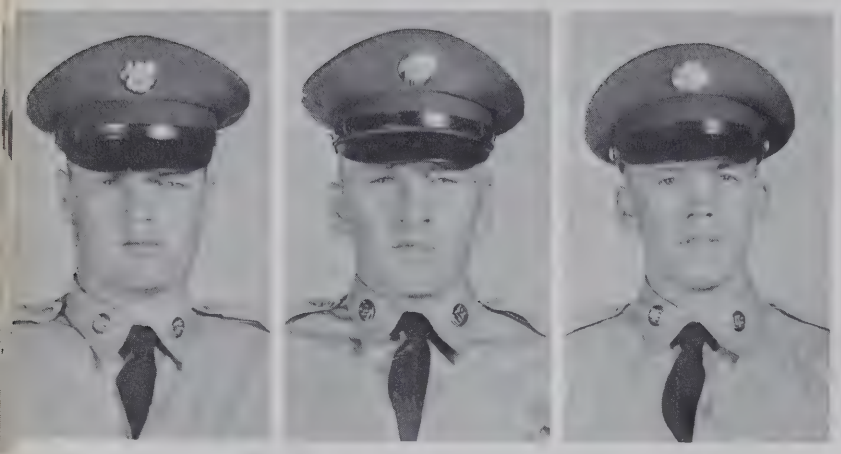


L to R
William H. Walls
Vance D. Walters
Roger L. Waugh
Lowell D. Wells
Oscar Wheeler, Jr.

L to R
Roy R. Whited
Lawrence N. Wickline
Russell E. Wilson
Paul R. Wolff
Robert Woodlock

GRADUATION DAY

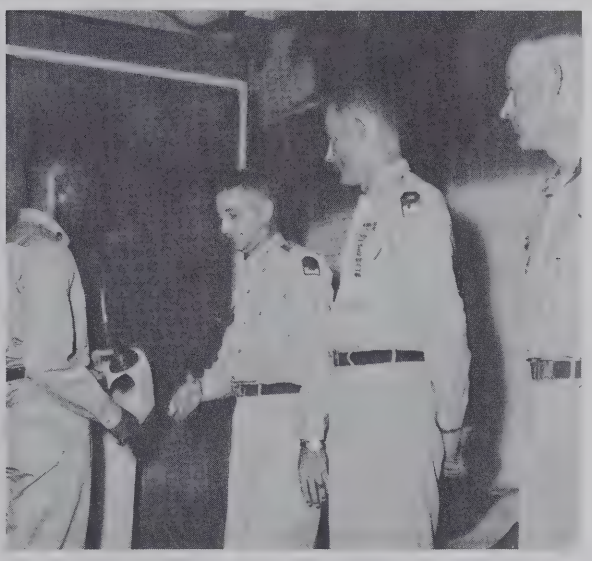


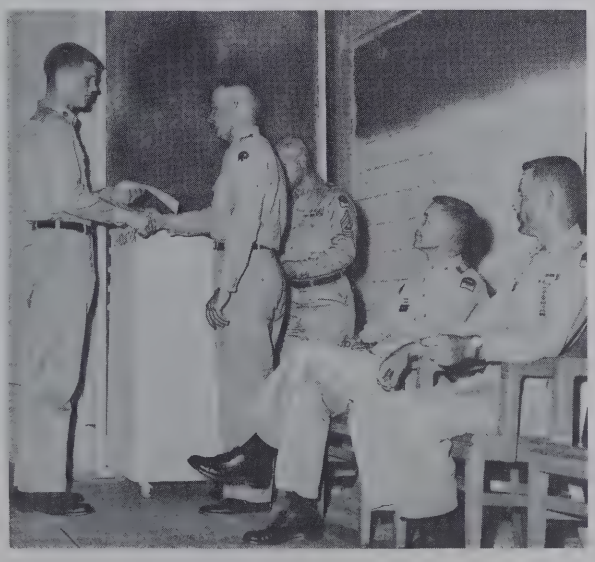


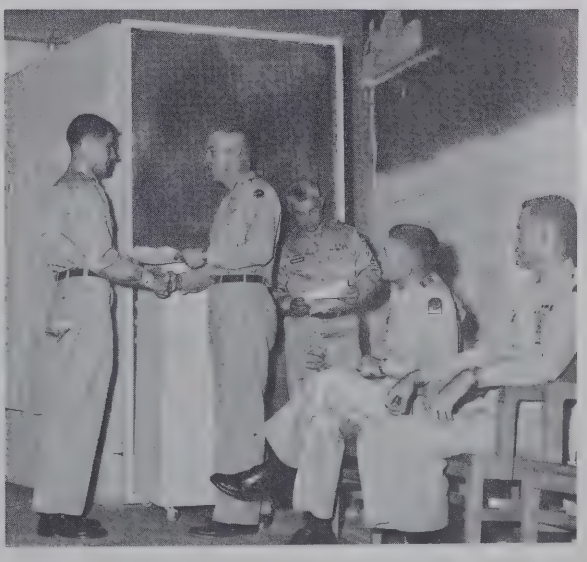
L to R
Francis C. Woodruff
James L. Wright
Anthony J. Yurkovich

" Not Photographed "
Willis R. Bell
Garel R. Hill
John J. Kinser
Neal W. Mc Elhaney
David M. Raczynski

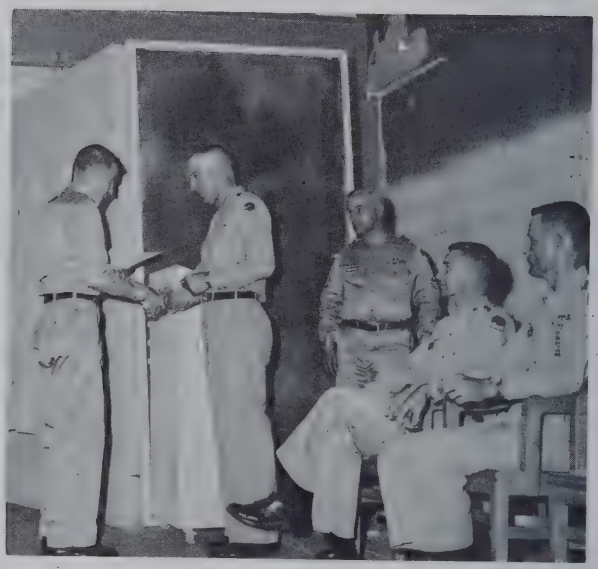
PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

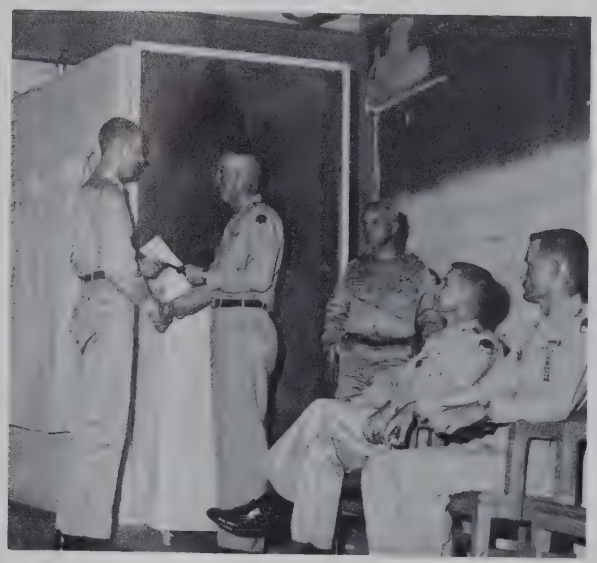


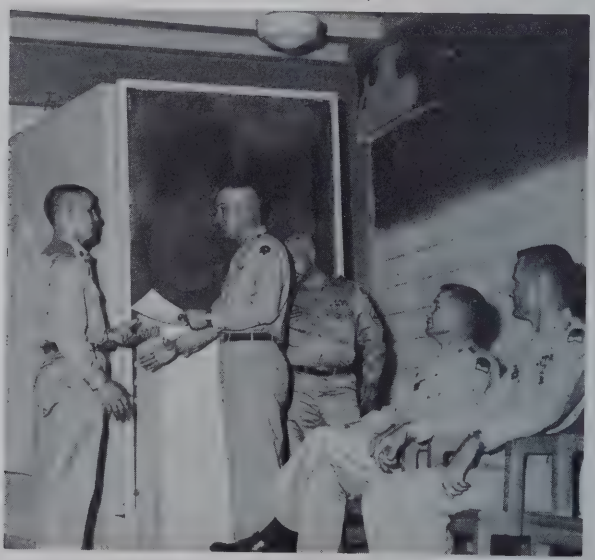




PRESENTATION OF AWARDS







YOU MAKE TIME IN MODERN ARMY GREEN . . . NOT MARK TIME

Now with basic over, each member of this graduating class can look forward to broadening horizons in his brand-new uniform of Modern Army Green. Indeed, this handsome uniform symbolizes today's modern Army, an Army whose Explorer I pioneered America's space satellite program, an Army geared to turn today's challenge into tomorrow's reality. Each man in this class now stands ready to share in new achievements of the modern Army. Already, he has grown in self-confidence and know-how while learning the fundamentals of soldiering. Now he is ready to take advantage of the important opportunities shown on the following pages . . . opportunities that truly mean this class will make time, not mark time, in Modern Army Green.

MAKING TIME THROUGH

One of the greatest opportunities that comes with Modern Army Green is the chance for each soldier to become a skilled expert in his field through Army job training.

Some of the men in this class will be sent to Army schools, where over 150 combat, technical and administrative courses are taught—everything from missiles to medicine. These Army students will get top professional training, learn by using the most modern

JOB TRAINING

equipment, the best facilities in the world.

Other men will find they can learn their job best through on-the-job training. In this case, they will learn by *doing*, supervised by experts who know the requirements of the job from the ground up.

Whatever his job assignment and whatever type of training he receives, every man in this class will become a specialist at his duties, with the skill that assures a job well done.

MAKING TIME

THROUGH EDUCATION

In addition to job training, the modern Army offers each man the opportunity to pursue his formal education. The United States Armed Forces Institute conducts the largest correspondence school in the world and has helped thousands upon thousands of soldiers to get their high school diplomas.

The Army has also arranged with many civilian schools and colleges to permit soldiers to attend courses in their off-duty hours. Under the Tuition Assistance Program, an ambitious soldier can get a college degree. What's more, there are Education Centers in hundreds of Army posts which daily teach subjects the soldiers themselves have asked for. The modern Army has found that the greater an education a soldier has, the greater contribution he makes to the Army itself. This is why the man in Modern Army Green is urged to carry his education forward as far as possible.

MAKING TIME THROUGH TRAVEL

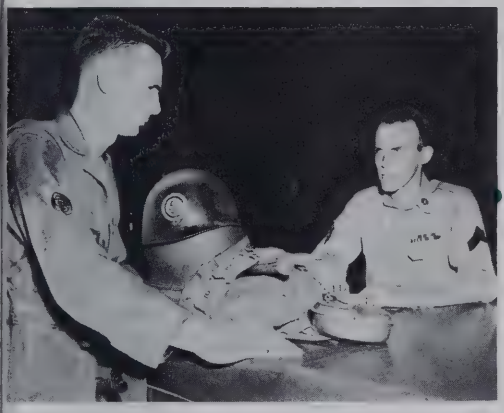
Modern Army Green is recognized the world over, and travel opportunities in the modern Army provide a valuable education in themselves. Assignments in various parts of the United States enable a soldier to understand his American heritage. But, beyond that, most soldiers have the chance for an overseas assignment. These foreign tours not only provide the fun and thrills of adventure in exciting foreign lands . . . but in traveling and observing different ways of life a soldier will find new meaning in his own.

Every soldier grows in the Army . . . grows not just physically but grows into a new maturity. The spiritual and moral growth of its men is of the utmost importance to the Army. The opportunity for a soldier to worship in his own religious faith is a fundamental part of Army life.

MAKING TIME THROUGH CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

Besides the active programs conducted by Protestant, Catholic and Jewish chaplains, each stands ready to counsel any soldier on his religious or personal problems.

Army discipline has its basis in self-control, self-respect, self-reliance, honor and honesty. This discipline creates clean-minded, clean-living soldiers who are aware of the responsibilities of good citizenship. The man in Modern Army Green is a credit to his country.



MAKING TIME THROUGH LEADERSHIP TRAINING

It is hoped that every man in Modern Army Green will climb up the leadership ladder. While every soldier cannot become an officer, each man has an equal chance and each is given promotions as they are merited. The Army's Officer Candidate Courses are always open to properly qualified enlisted men. As each soldier becomes capable of handling greater and greater responsibility, his self-confidence increases and so does his stature as a leader.

TO THE PARENTS

Congratulations! You can be proud of your son, for with the completion of his basic training, he has taken an important step forward. Now he is ready to make time in the Army through the opportunities we have indicated. You will follow his progress with pride as he visits you throughout his Army career.

Even greater opportunities will be available to your son if he reenlists at the end of his present term. He will have an opportunity to choose his technical training, his branch of service or his travel ... new opportunities to plan a rewarding service career that carries forward his goals.

The next time your son is home, why not discuss the possibilities of an Army career with him? Weigh the pros and cons together. Compare his prospects in civilian clothes with the many benefits that are his in Modern Army Green ... benefits that increase with service. The modern Army provides a rich and rewarding future ... a career worthy of the most serious consideration by both you and your son.

But for now . . . feel confident that as your son moves out of basic training he is sure to make time, not mark time, in Modern Army Green!